

Title: Coherent Gravitational Waveforms and Memory from Cosmic String Loops

Speakers: Josu Calvo-Aurrekoetxea

Series: Strong Gravity

Date: January 21, 2021 - 1:00 PM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/21010016>

Abstract: We construct, for the first time, the time-domain gravitational-wave strain waveform from the collapse of a strongly gravitating Abelian Higgs cosmic string loop in full general relativity. We show that the strain exhibits a large memory effect during merger, ending with a burst and characteristic ringdown as a black hole is formed. Furthermore, we investigate the waveform and energy emitted as a function of width, radius and string tension  $G\hat{\mu}$ . We find that the mass normalized gravitational-wave energy displays a strong dependence on the inverse of the string tension  $E_{\text{GW}} / M_0 \hat{\mu} \sim 1/G\hat{\mu}$ , with  $E_{\text{GW}} / M_0 \hat{\mu}^{1/4} \sim O(1)\%$  at the percent level, for the regime where  $G\hat{\mu} \sim 1e-3$ . Conversely, we show that the efficiency is only weakly dependent on the initial string width and initial string radii. Using these results, we argue that gravitational-wave production is dominated by kinematical instead of geometrical considerations.

# Coherent GW Waveforms and Memory from Cosmic String Loops

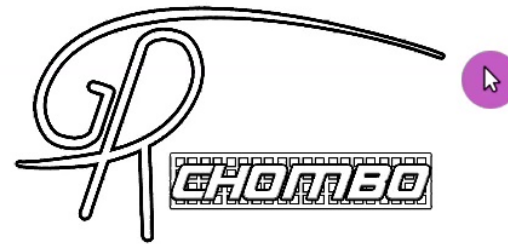
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Josu C. Aurrekoetxea

@ Perimeter Institute (via zoom)

w/ Thomas Helfer & Eugene Lim

1808.06678  
2002.05177



# What is this talk about?

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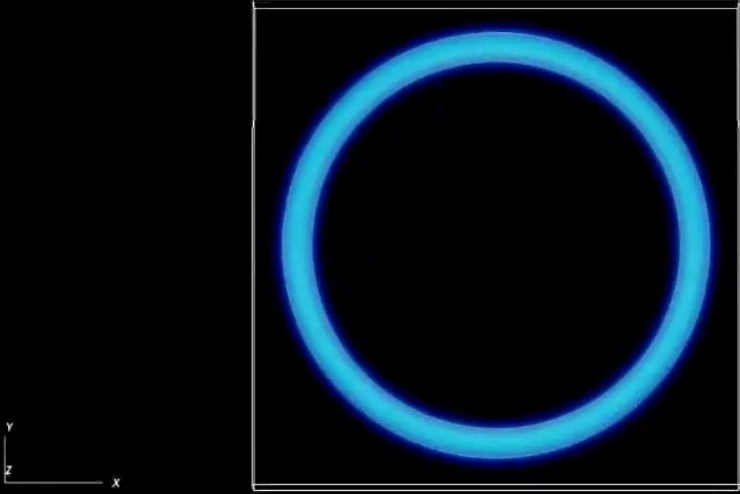


Movie



Activities Videos Thu 19:02


Movie Edit View Go Sound Help



Time:

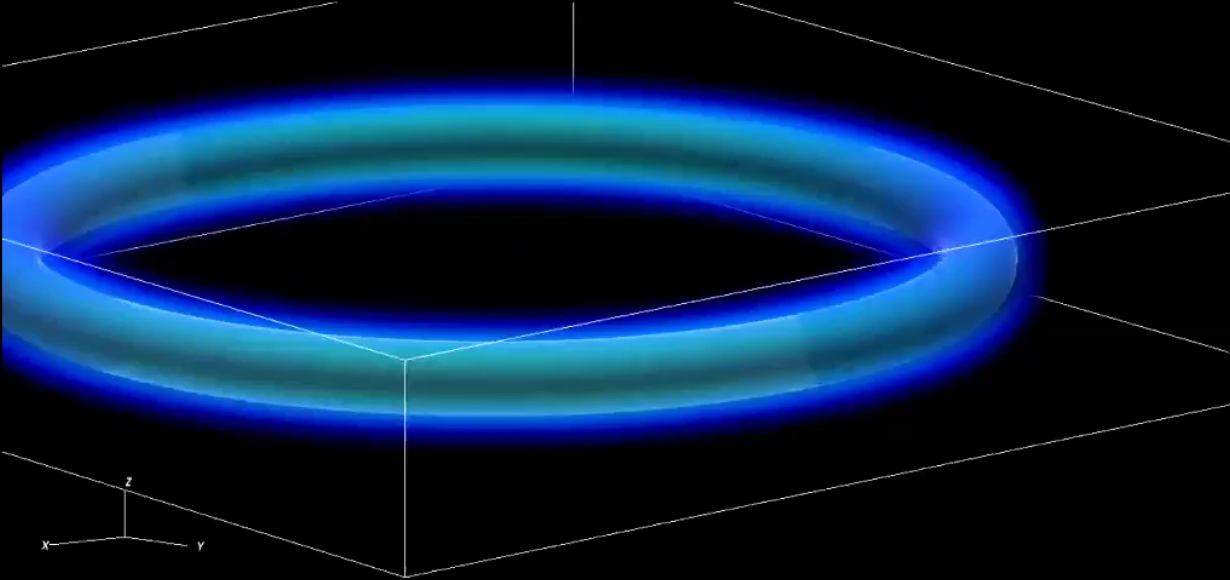
Playin Pause / 0:58

Speaker icon and menu icon



Activities Videos Thu 19:02


Movie Edit View Go Sound Help



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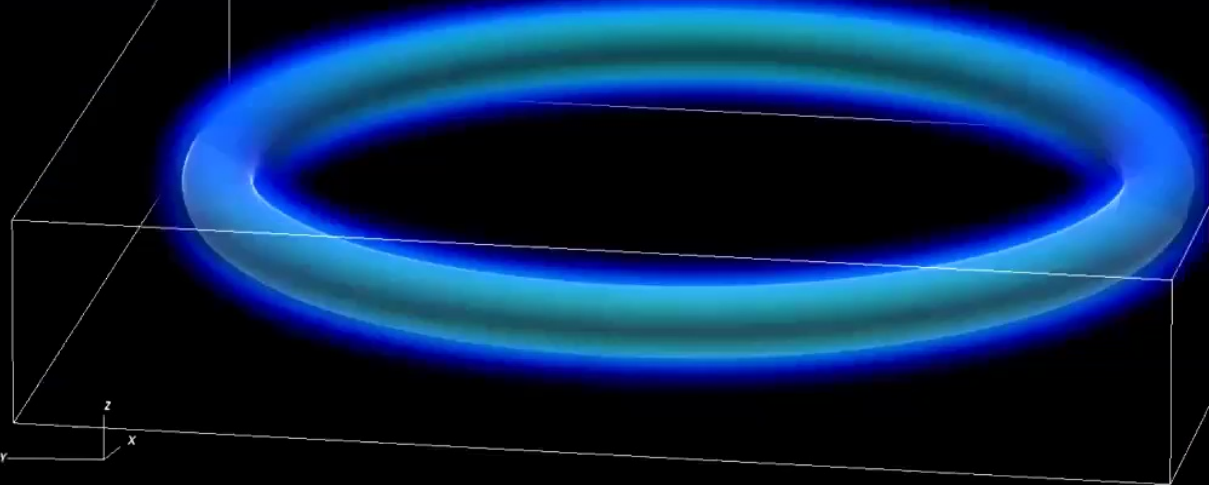
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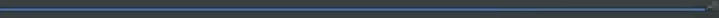
Volume icon and menu icon




Activities Videos Thu 19:03

Movie Edit View Go Sound Help



Time: 

Playin Pause 0:58



Activities Videos Thu 19:03

Movie Edit View Go Sound Help

The video player displays a blue ring in the center of the screen. Below the ring is a graph with the following characteristics:

- Y-axis:  $r_{h+20} [M_{\text{pl}}^{-1}]$ , ranging from 0 to 50.
- X-axis:  $t [M_{\text{pl}}^{-1}]$ , ranging from 0 to 2500.
- The curve starts at 0, rises to a peak of approximately 50 at  $t \approx 1500$ , then drops to a minimum of approximately 25 at  $t \approx 1800$ , and finally levels off around 40 for  $t > 2000$ .

Time: Paused 0:28 / 0:58

Activities Videos Thu 19:03

Movie Edit View Go Sound Help

Time: 0:30 / 0:58

Playing 0:30 / 0:58



Activities Videos Thu 19:03

Movie Edit View Go Sound Help

$r_{h+20} [M_{pl}^{-1}]$

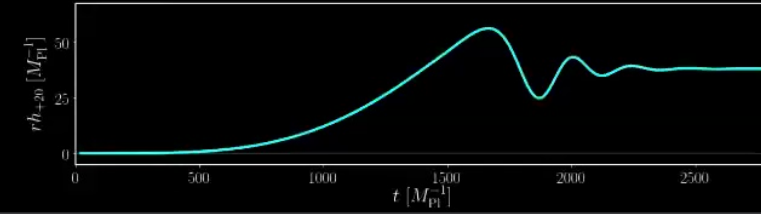
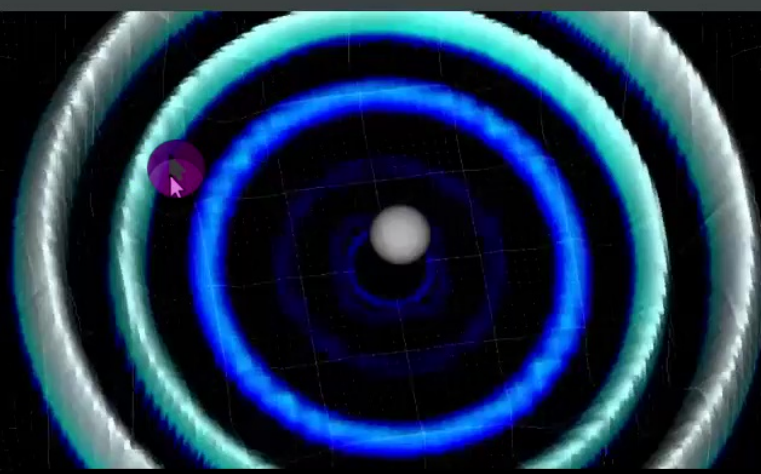
$t [M_{pl}^{-1}]$

Time: 0:39 / 0:58

Playing 0:39 / 0:58

Activities Videos Thu 19:03

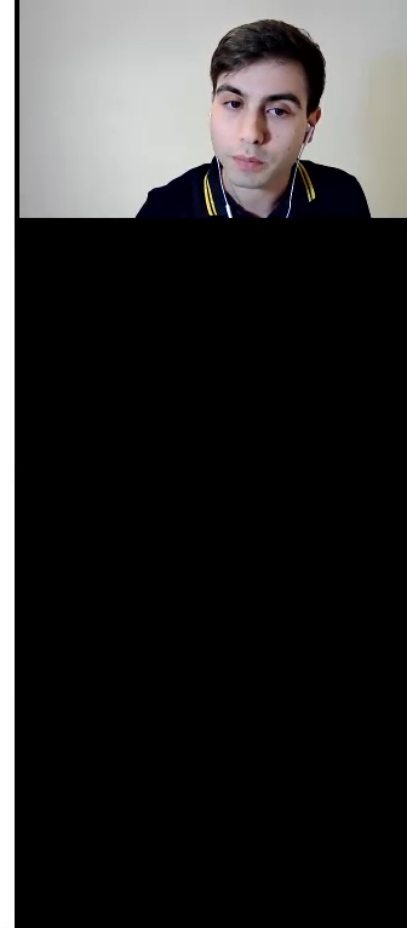
Movie Edit View Go Sound Help



Time: 0:47 / 0:58

Playing 0:47 / 0:58

What are cosmic strings?



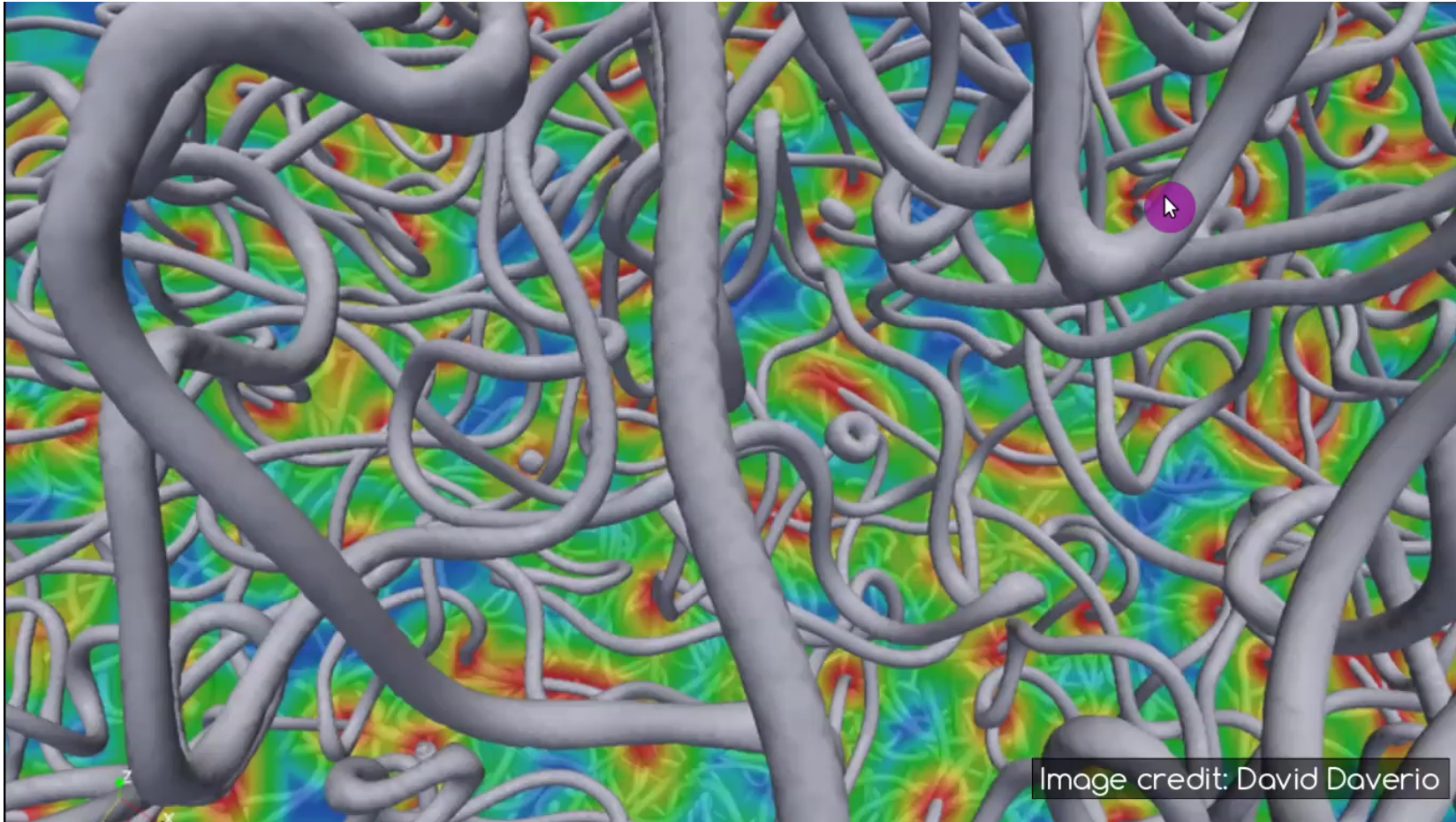
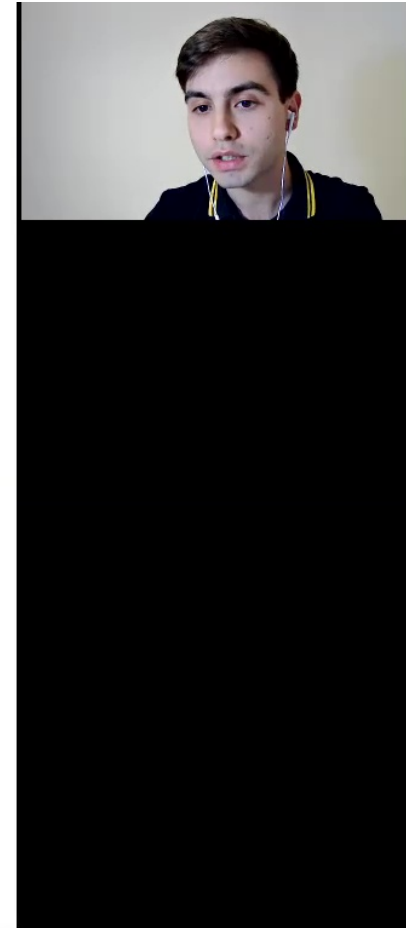
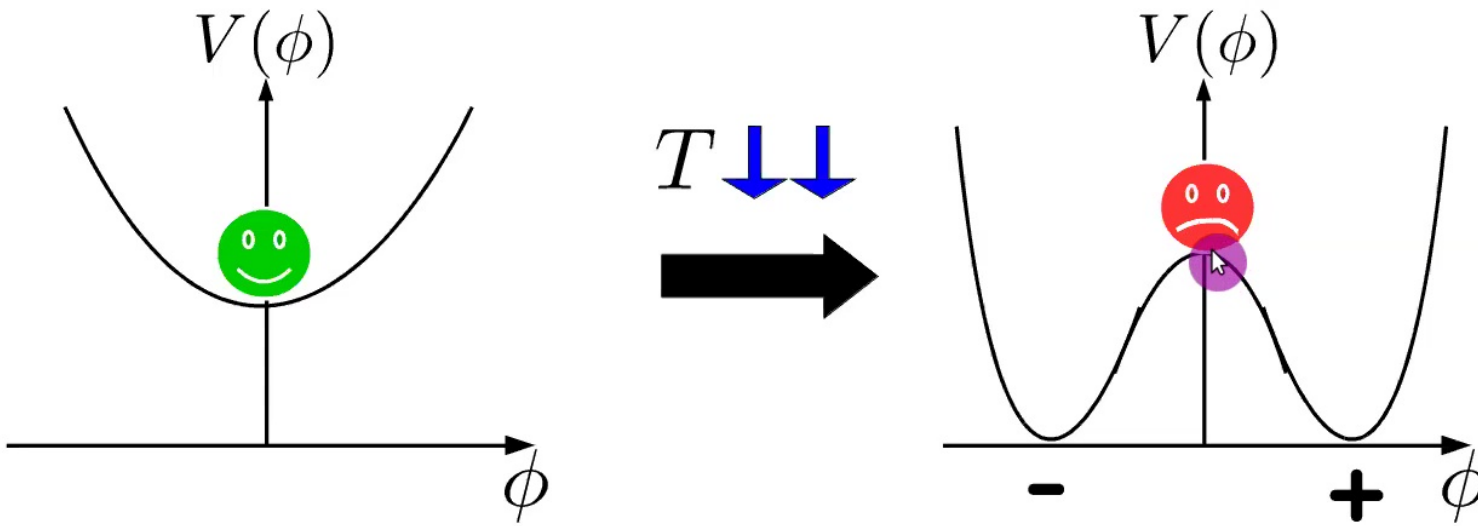


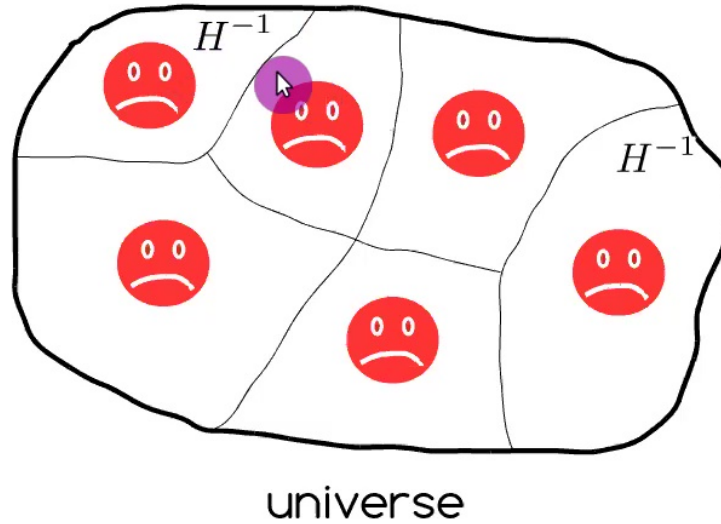
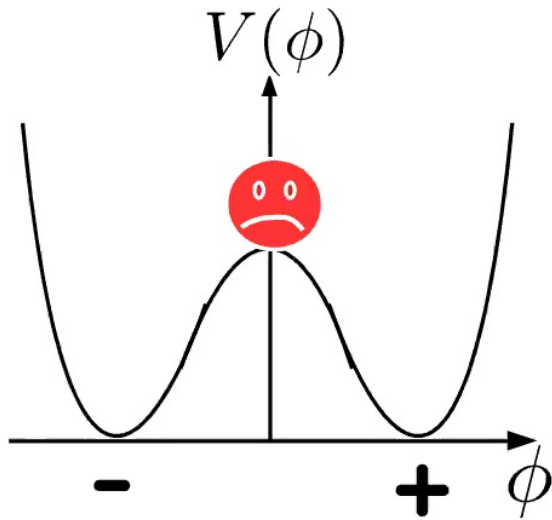
Image credit: David Daverio



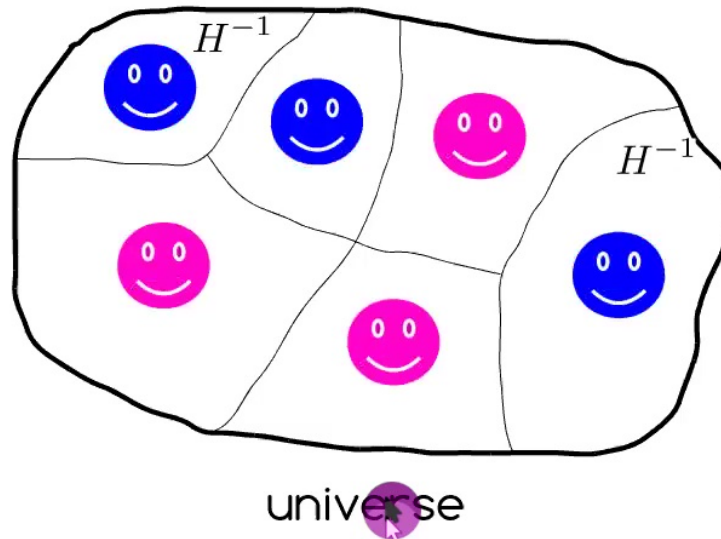
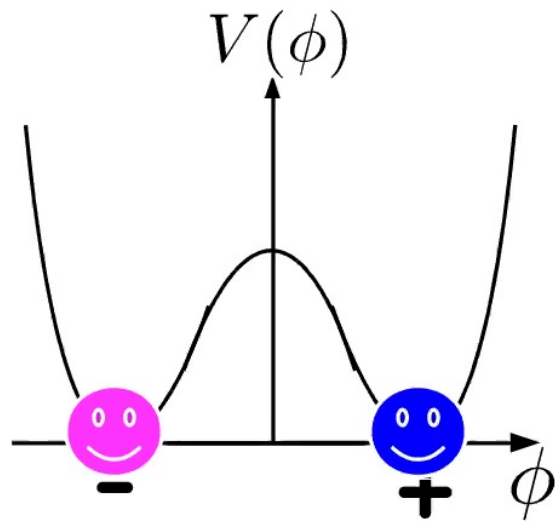
# Domain Walls (2d)



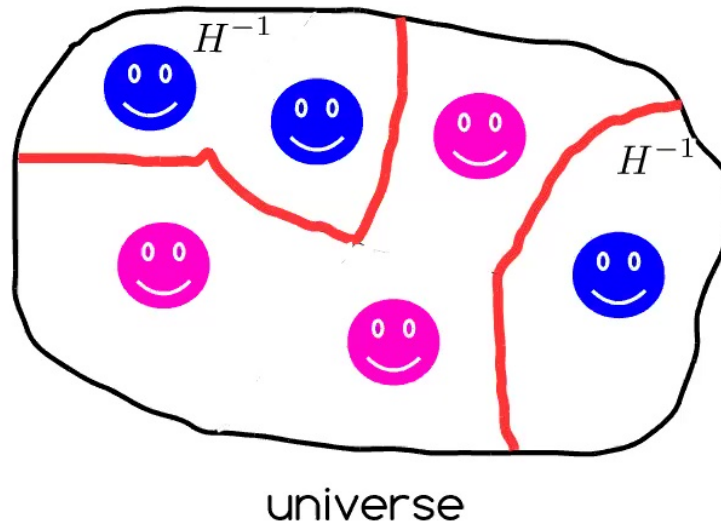
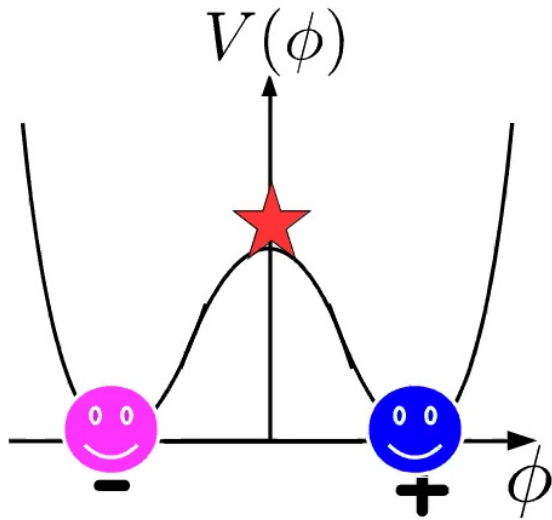
# Domain Walls (2d)



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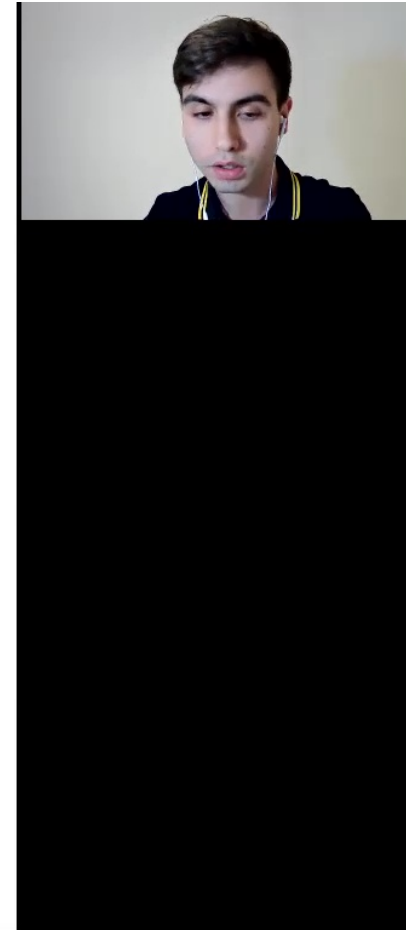
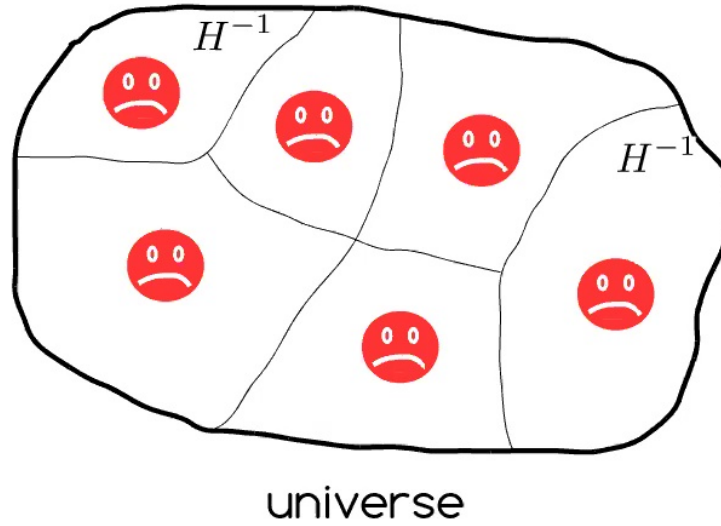
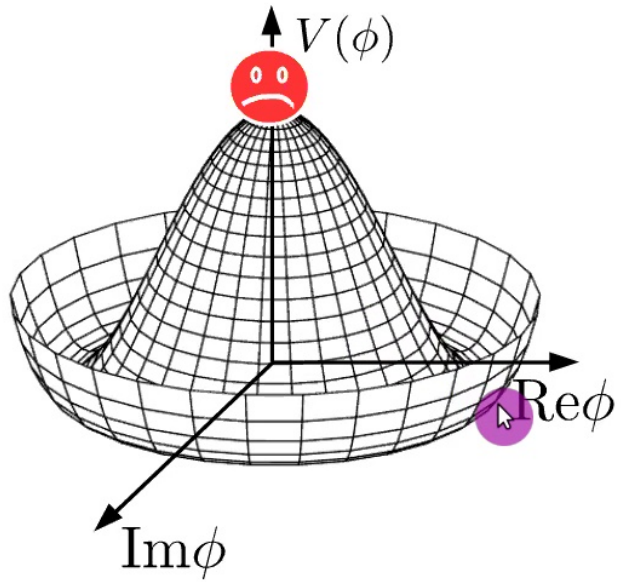


# Domain Walls (2d)

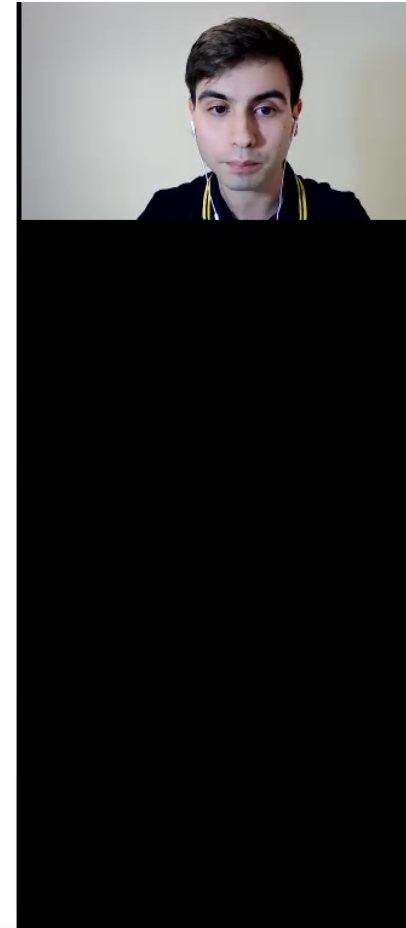
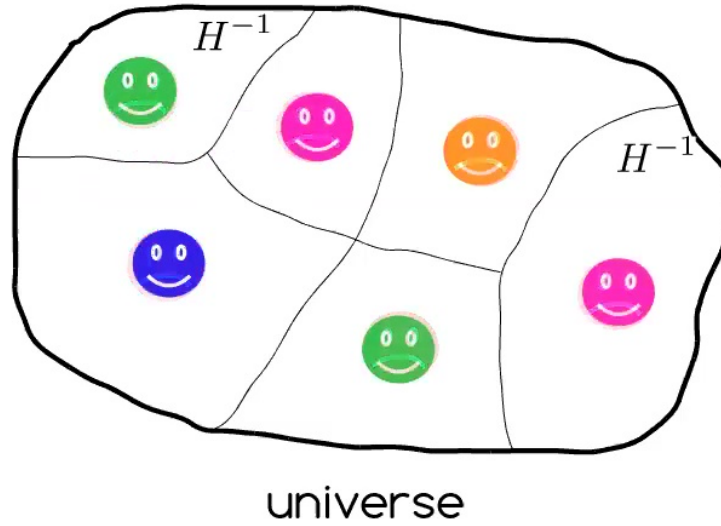
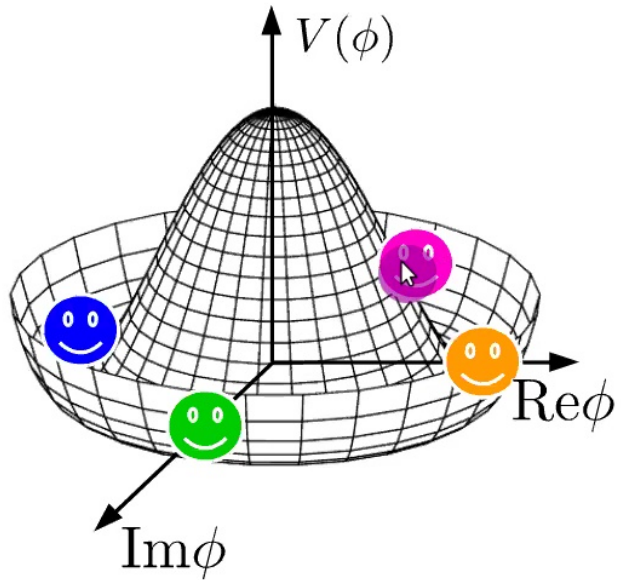




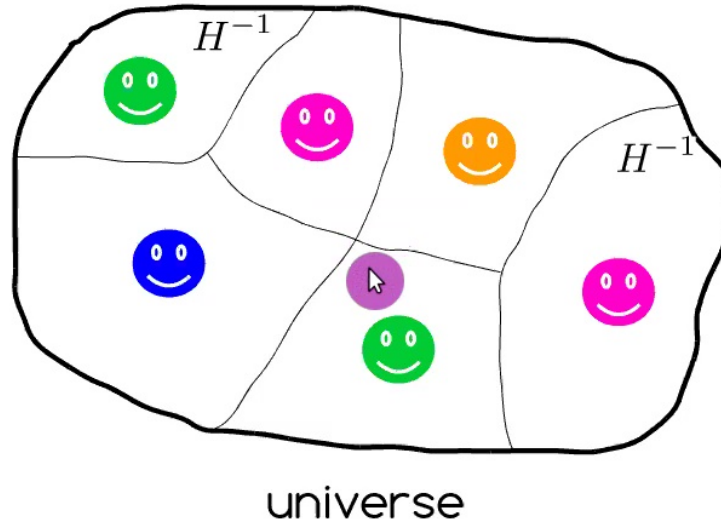
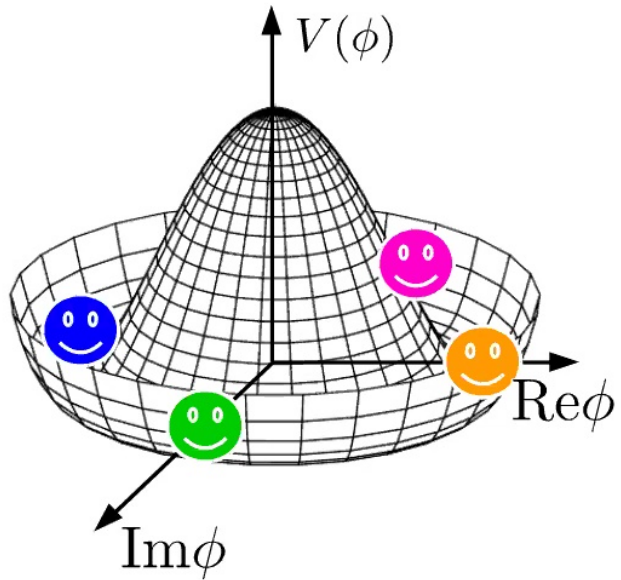
# Cosmic Strings (1d)



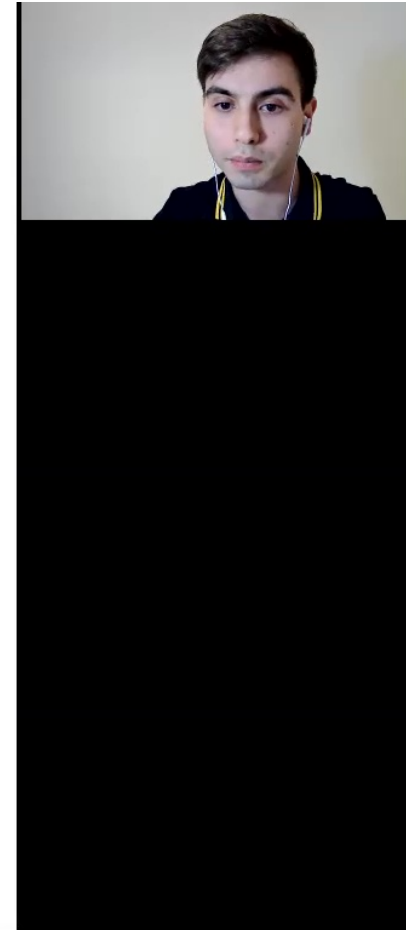
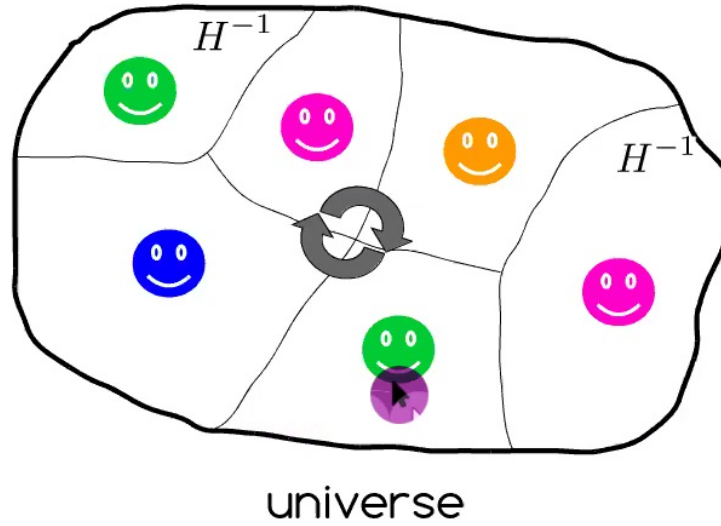
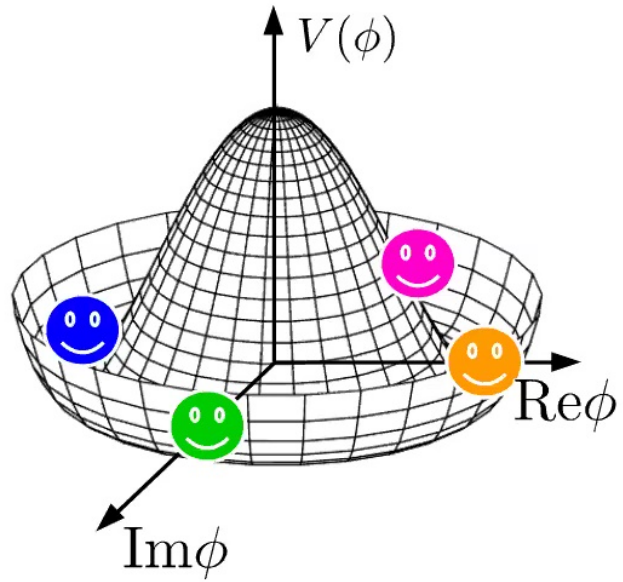
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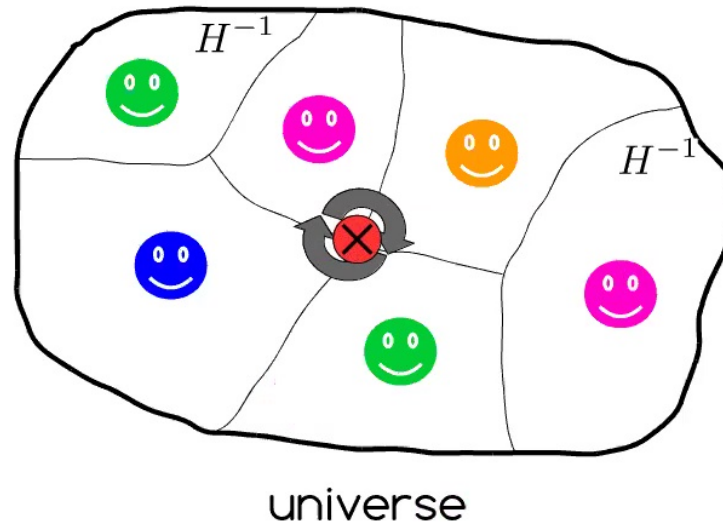
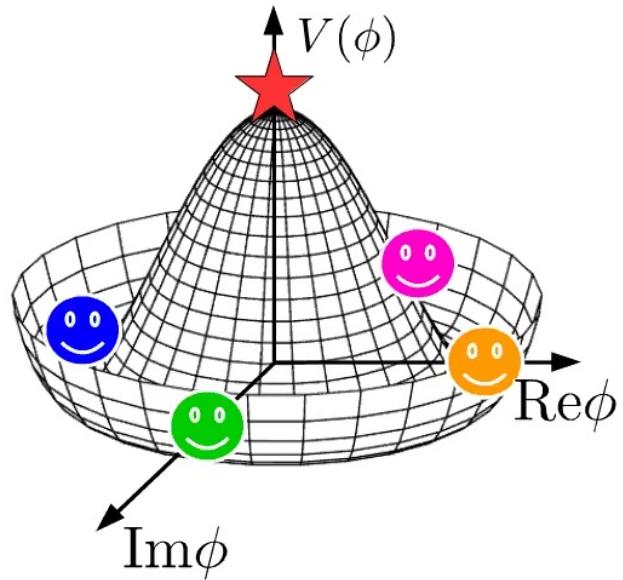
# Cosmic Strings (1d)



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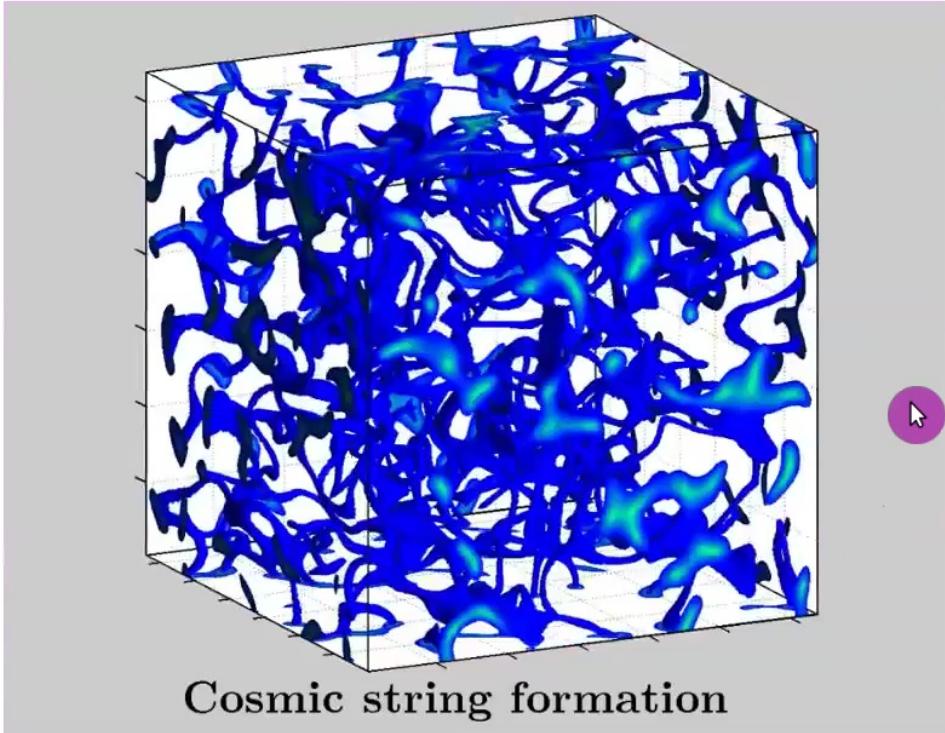


# Cosmic Strings (1d)

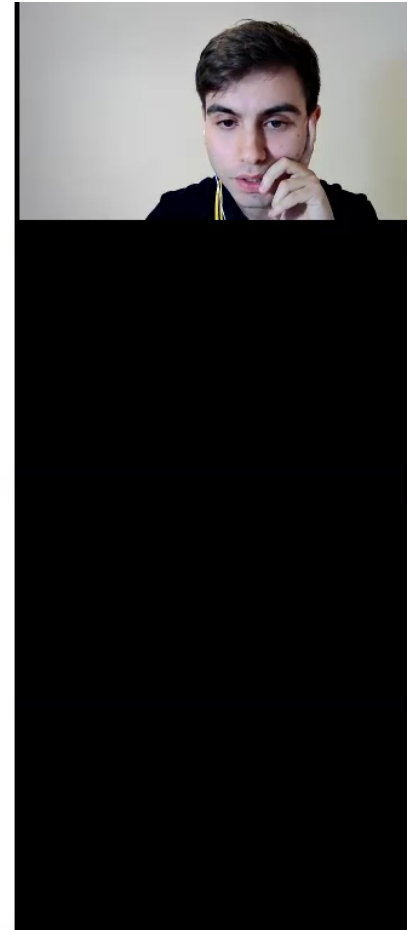


# Formation

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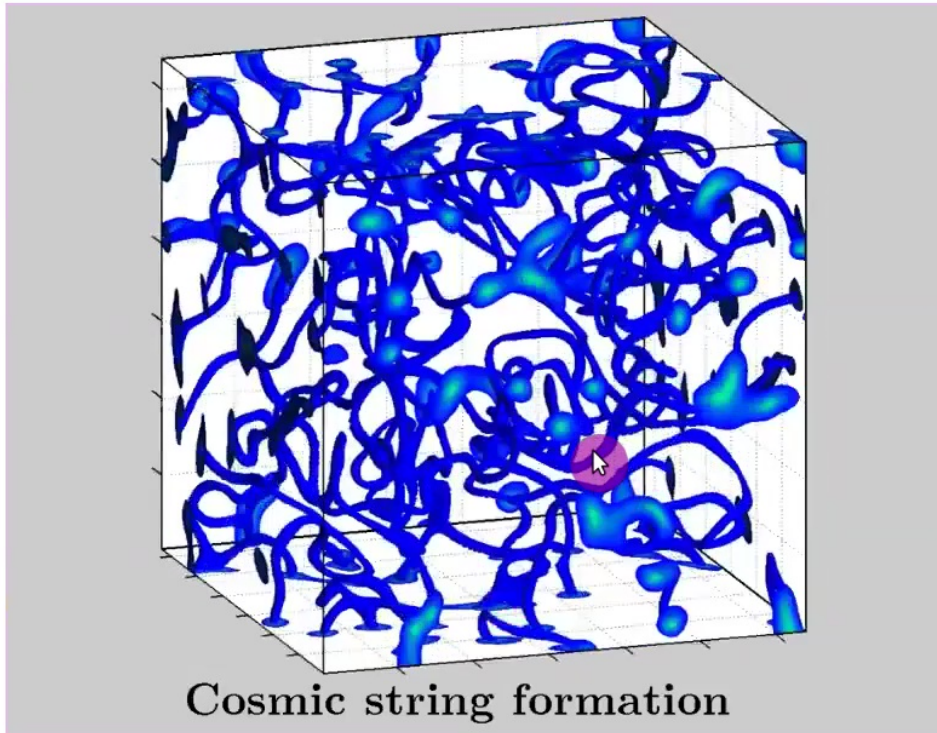


Credit:  
Ciaran O'Hare

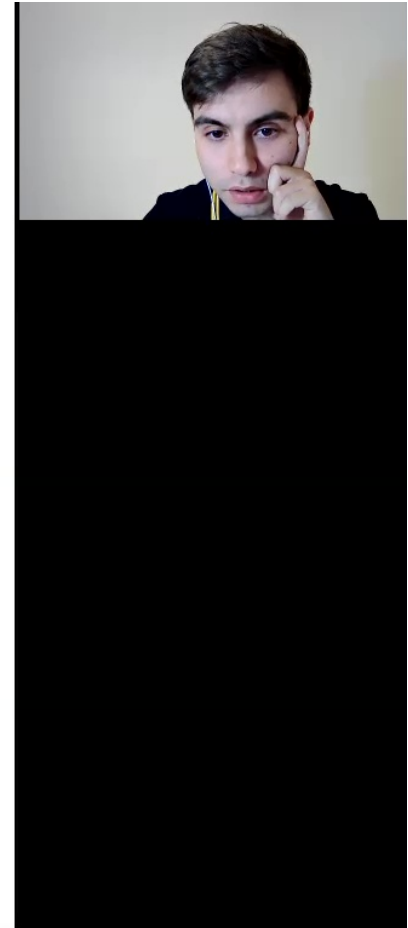


# Formation

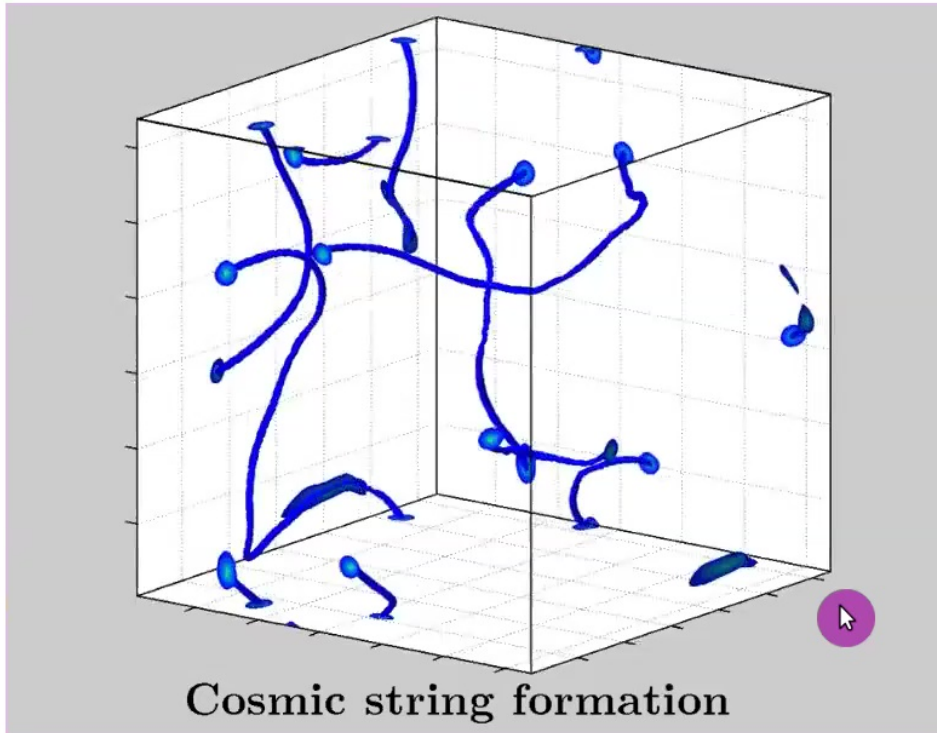
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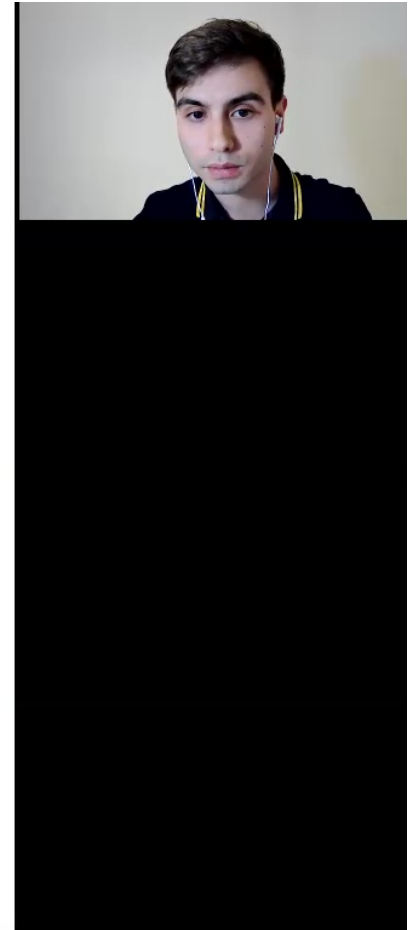
Credit:  
Ciaran O'Hare



# Formation



Credit:  
Ciaran O'Hare

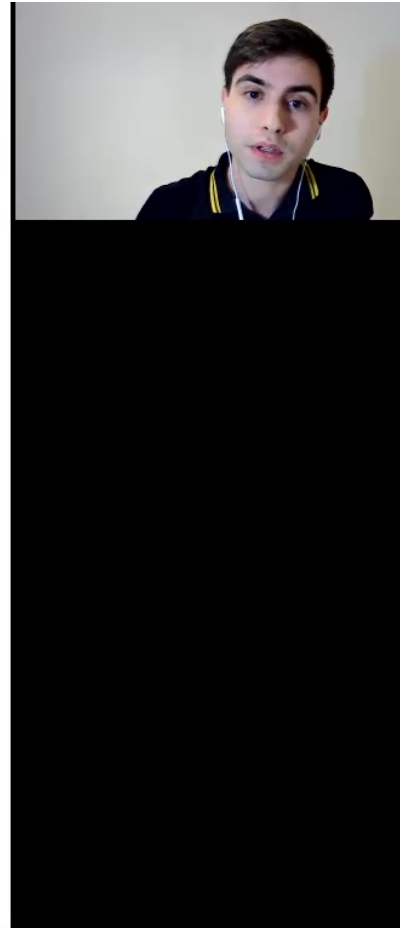




# Past work

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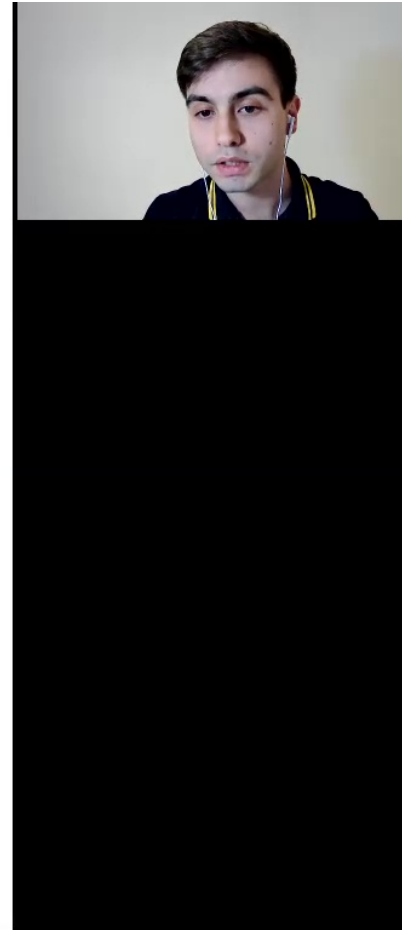
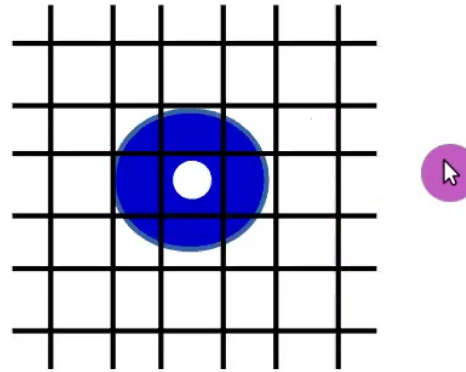
- Field theory approach
  
- Nambu-Goto approach



# Past work

---

- Field theory approach
  - Take into account field interactions
  - Strings not well resolved  $\zeta$ ?
- Nambu-Goto approach

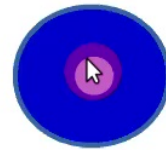


# Do not work

- Field theory approach

- Take into account field interactions
- Strings not well resolved  $\zeta$ ?

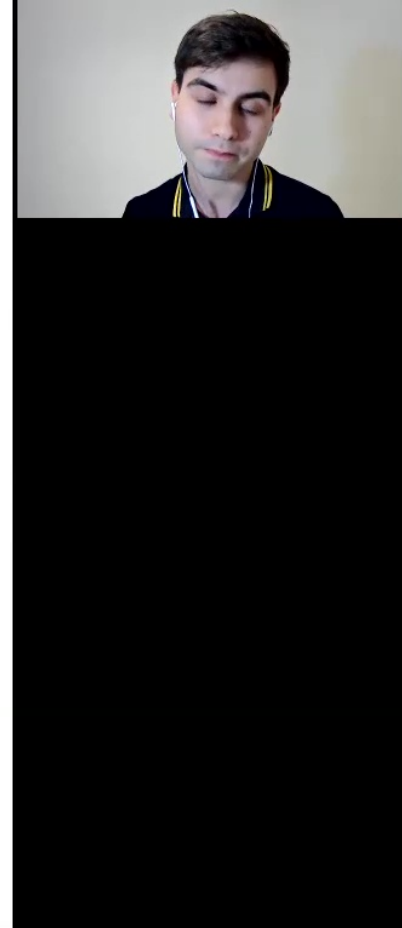
- Nambu-Goto approach



# Past work

---

- Field theory approach
  - Take into account field interactions
  - Strings not well resolved  $\zeta$ ?
- Nambu-Goto approach
  - Can simulate large systems
  - Maybe not capturing all physics  $\zeta$ ?



# Past work

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- Field theory approach
  - Take into account field interactions
  - Things not well resolved  $\zeta$ ?
- Nambu-Goto approach
  - Can simulate large systems
  - Maybe not capturing all physics  $\zeta$ ?

**Different results**



# Past work

---

- Field theory approach
  - Take into account field interactions
  - Things not well resolved  $\zeta$ ?
- Nambu-Goto approach
  - Can simulate large systems
  - Maybe not capturing all physics  $\zeta$ ?

**Different results**

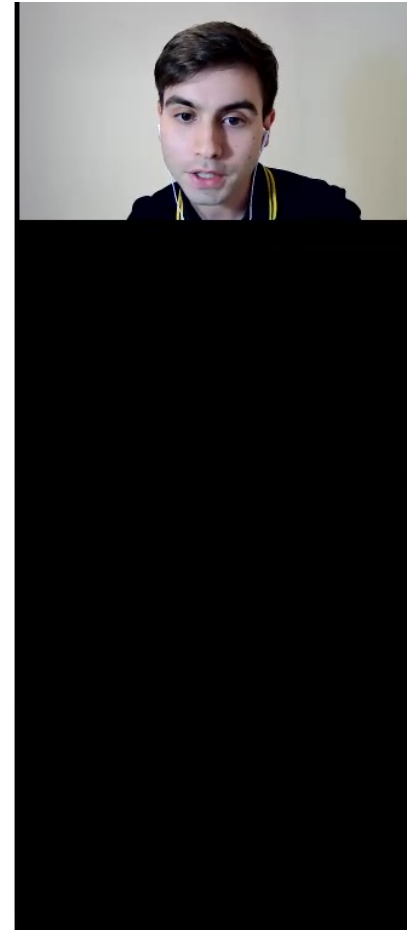
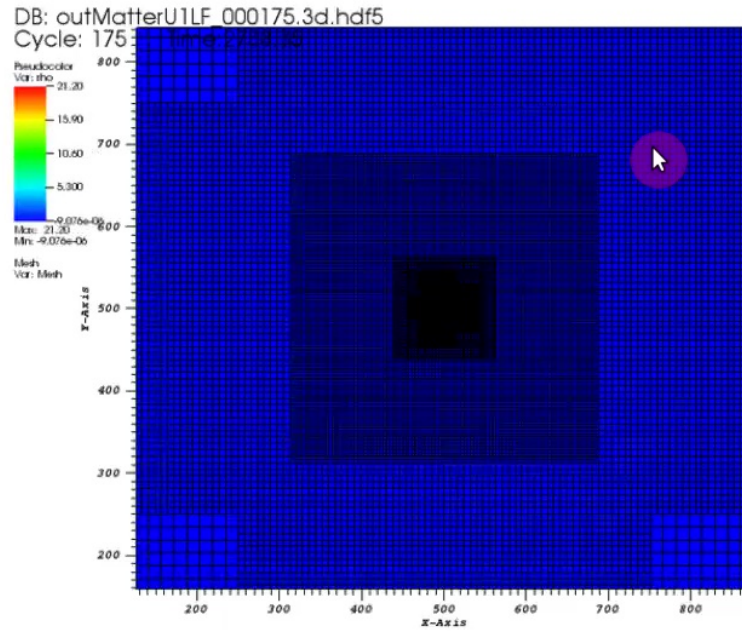
Field theory with  
Adaptive Mesh Refinement!

Amelia Drew and Paul Shellard  
1910.01718 [astro-ph]



# Our work

+ General Relativity [with AMR]

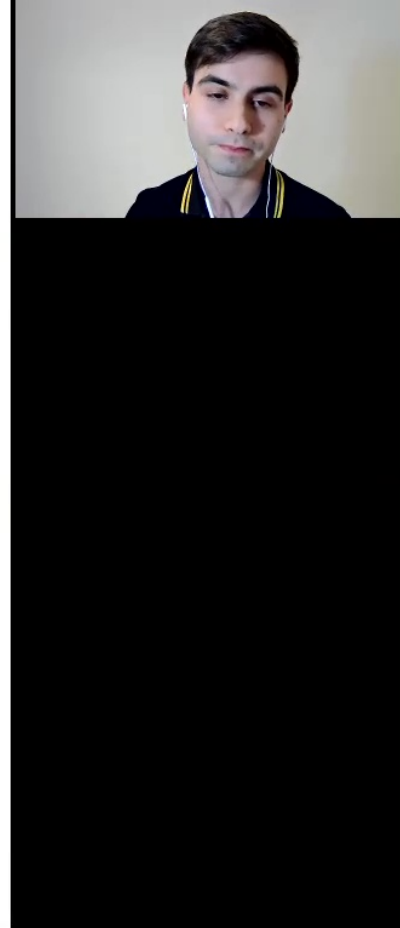


# Our work

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+ General Relativity [with AMR]

- Capture field interactions with full backreaction effects
  - Can study strong gravity phenomena
    - Black hole formation
    - waveforms!



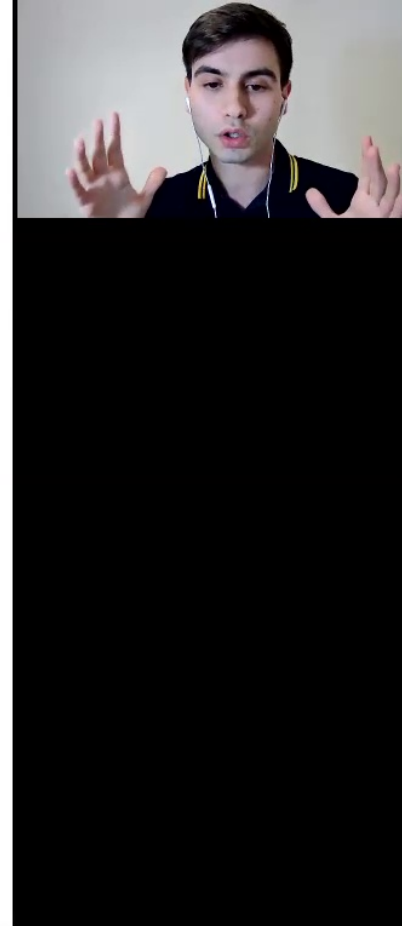


# Our work

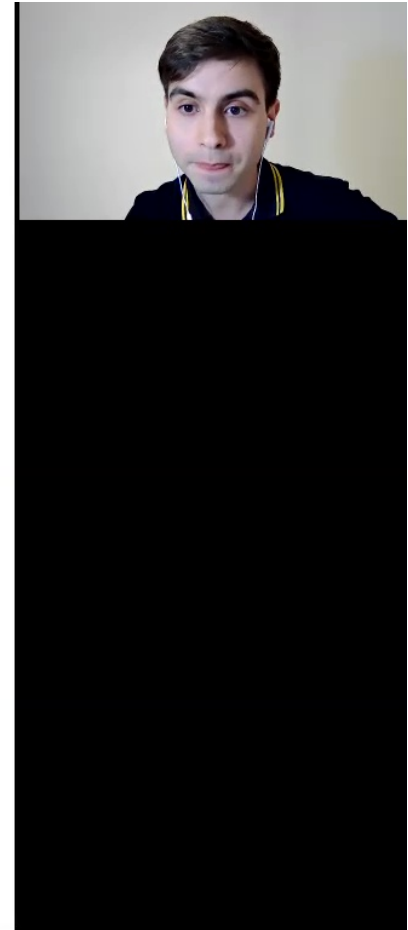
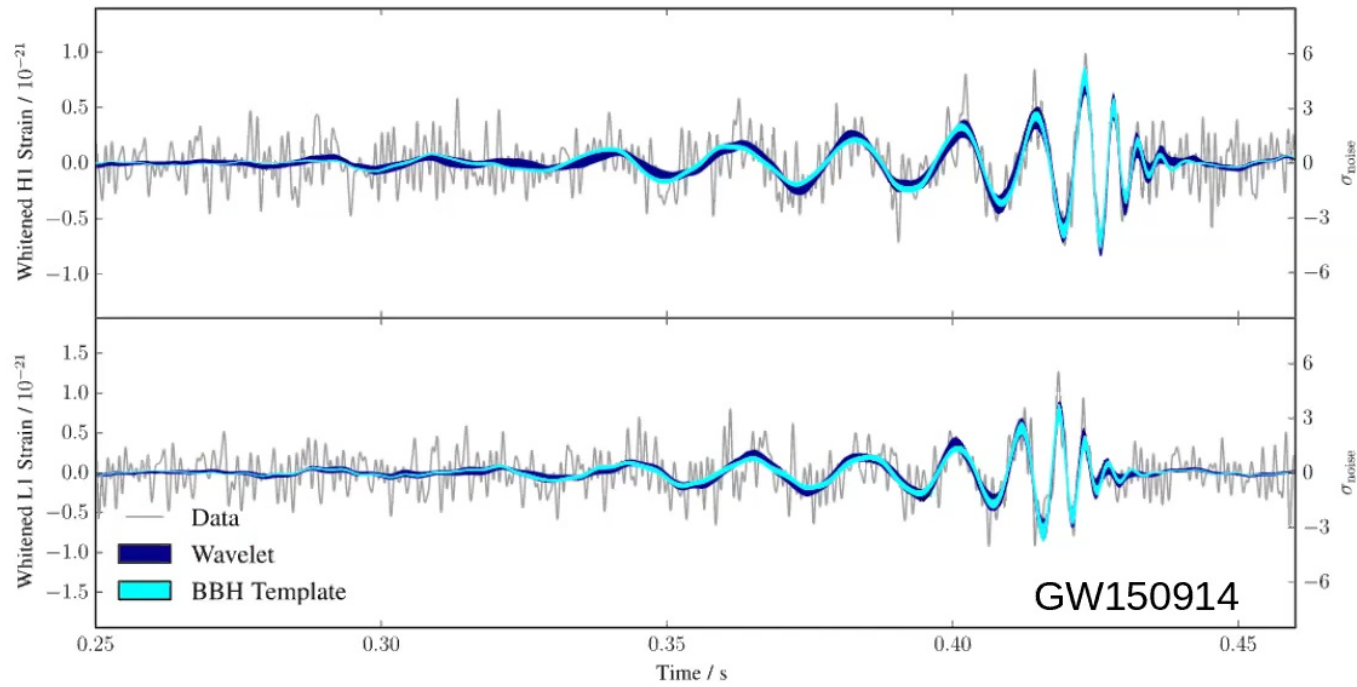
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## + General Relativity [with AMR]

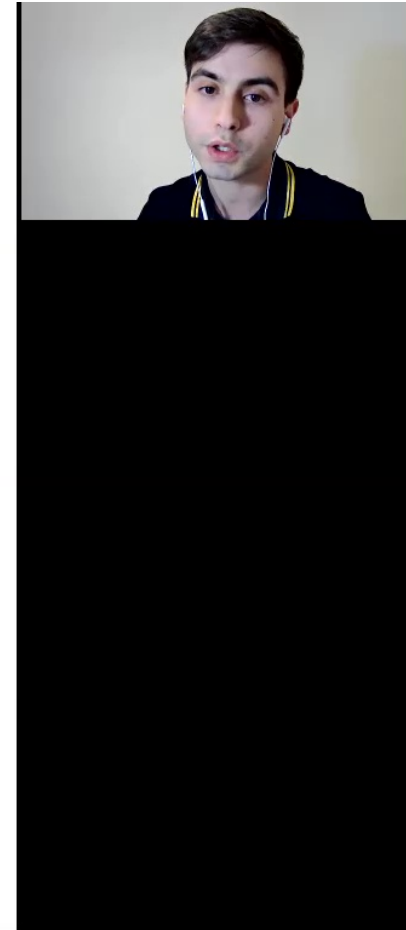
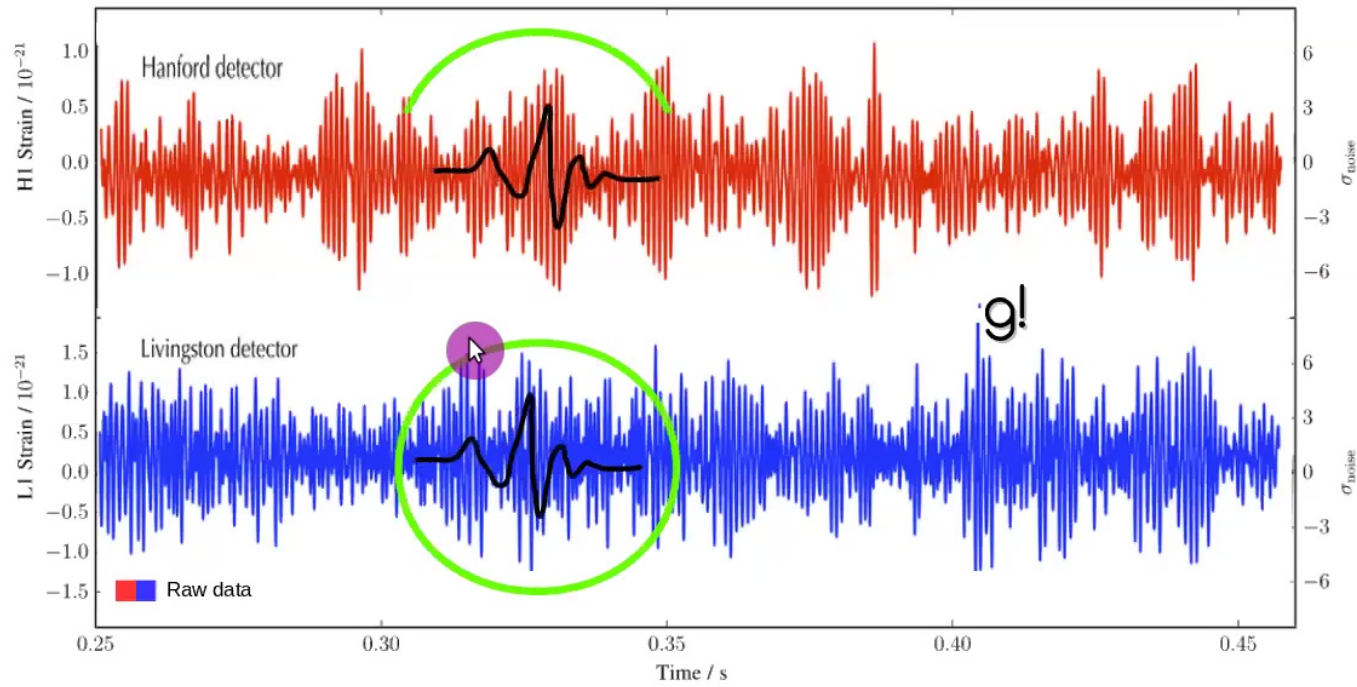
- Capture field interactions with full backreaction effects
  - Can study strong gravity phenomena
    - Black hole formation
    - waveforms!
- Computational limitations
  - Can't simulate networks yet (too expensive)



# Motivation



# Motivation

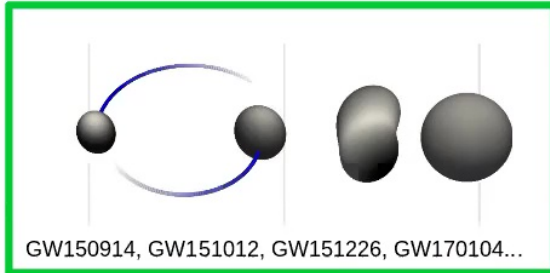


# Motivation

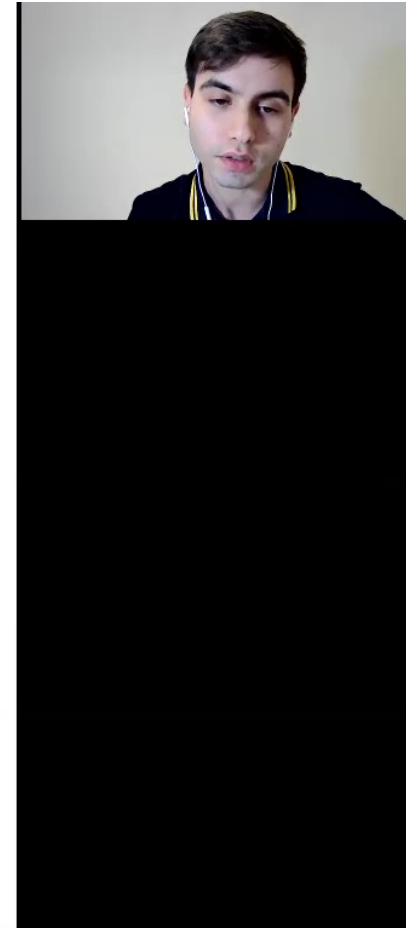
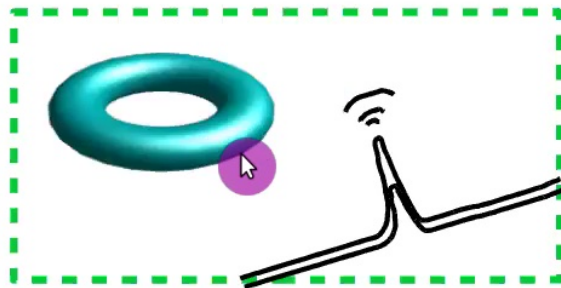
Individual events

Stochastic Background

BBH



Strings



# Numerical Setup

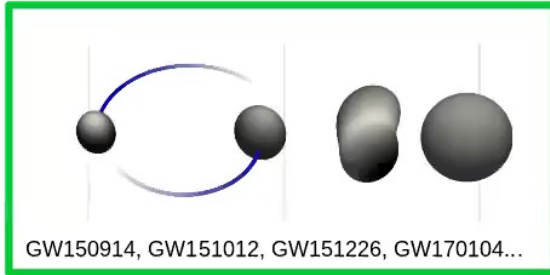


# Motivation

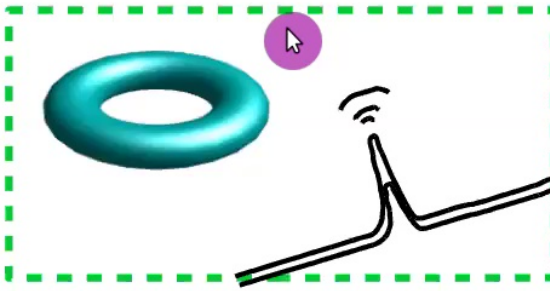
Individual events

Stochastic Background

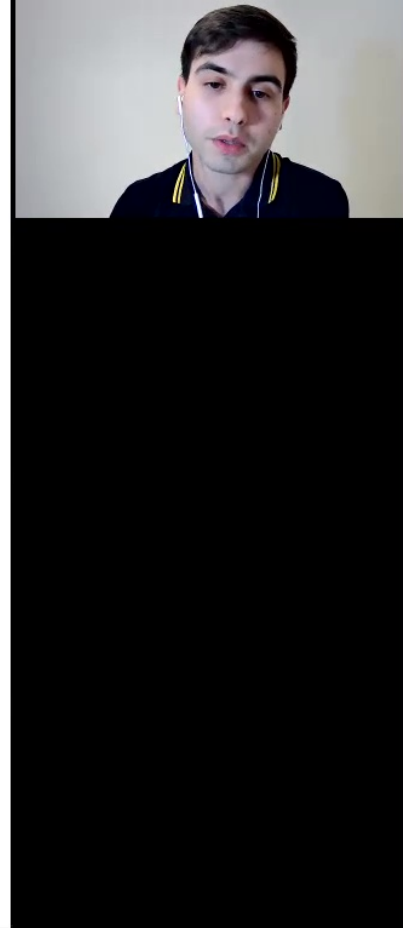
BBH



Strings



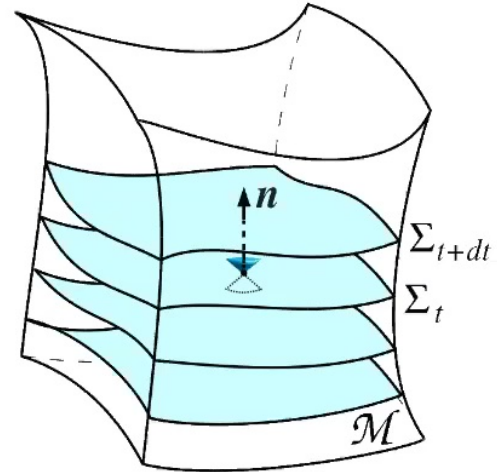
# Numerical Setup



# Gravity sector

$$ds^2 = -\alpha^2 dt^2 + \gamma_{ij}(dx^i + \beta^i dt)(dx^j + \beta^j dt)$$

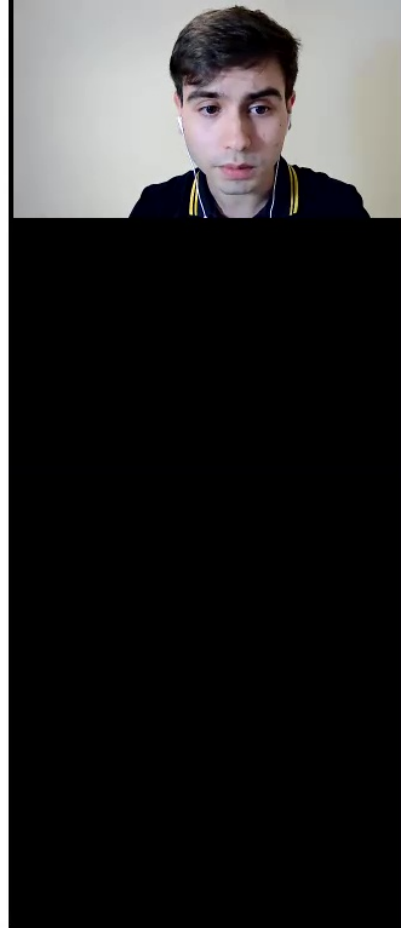
↑            ↑            ↑  
lapse      3-metric      shift



Extrinsic curvature

$$K_{ij} = \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{n}}\gamma_{ij} \sim \dot{\gamma}_{ij}$$

$$K = \text{Tr}K_{ij} \quad (\text{Hubble parameter in FRW})$$





# Gravity sector

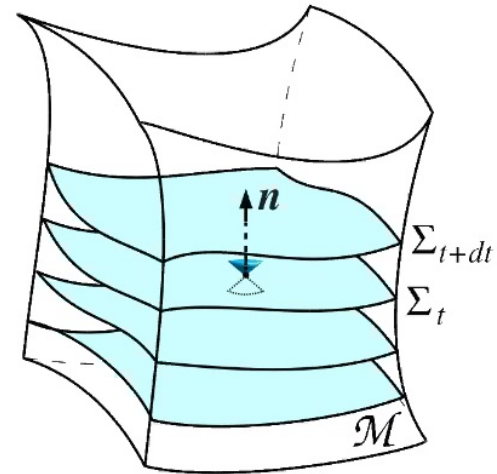
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lapse      3-metric      shift

Extrinsic curvature

$$K_{ij} = \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{n}}\gamma_{ij} \sim \dot{\gamma}_{ij}$$

$$K = \text{Tr}K_{ij} \quad (\text{Hubble parameter in FRW})$$



Projector

$$P_{\mu}^{\nu} = \delta_{\mu}^{\nu} + n_{\mu}n^{\nu}$$



# Gravity sector

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## 4 constraint equations

energy density

Hamiltonian  $\mathcal{H} = R + K^2 - K_{ij}K^{ij} - 16\pi\rho = 0$

Momentum  $\mathcal{M}_i = D^j (\gamma_{ij}K - K_{ij}) - 8\pi S_i = 0$

momentum density

## Evolution equations:

BSSN formulation

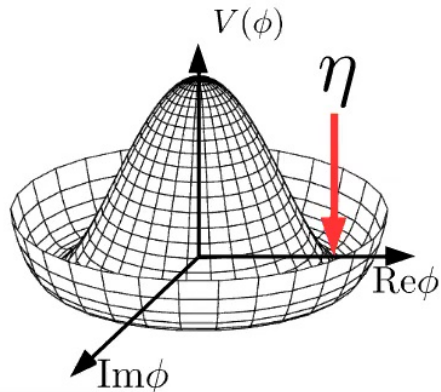


# Matter sector

Abelian Higgs  $\mathcal{L} = \underbrace{-(D_\mu \phi)^* (D^\mu \phi) - V(\phi)}_{\text{Complex scalar}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}}_{\text{Gauge field}}$

$$D_\mu = \partial_\mu - ieA_\mu$$

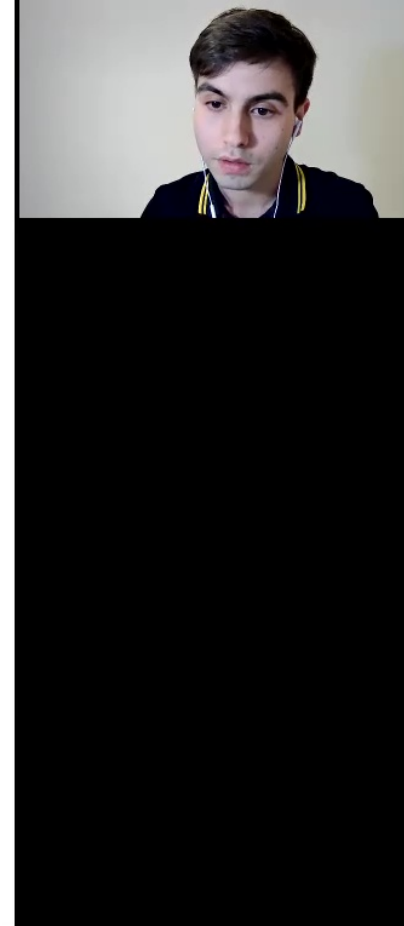
$$J^\mu = 2\text{Im}(\phi^* D^\mu \phi)$$



$$V(\phi) = \frac{1}{4} \lambda (|\phi|^2 - \eta^2)^2$$

String tension:

$$G\mu = 2\pi G\eta^2$$



# Matter sector

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Gauss constraint

$$\gamma_i^\mu \nabla_\mu E^i = e\mathcal{J}$$

$$E_\mu = P_\mu^\nu n^\alpha F_{\nu\alpha}$$

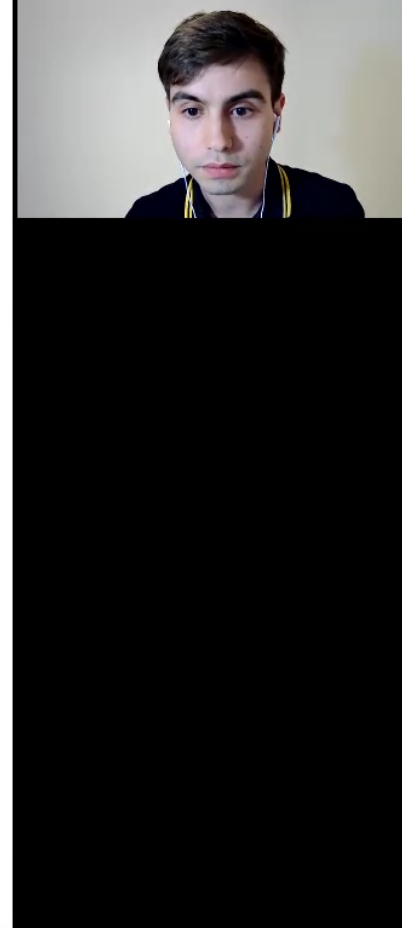
Longitudinal  
component of  $J^\mu$

Knapp-Walker-Baumgarte formalism

Introduce auxiliary variable  $Z$

$$\partial_t Z = \alpha \left( \tilde{\nabla}_i E^i - e\mathcal{J} - \kappa Z \right) + \beta^j \partial_j Z \quad Z \rightarrow 0$$

Damping constant



# How to:

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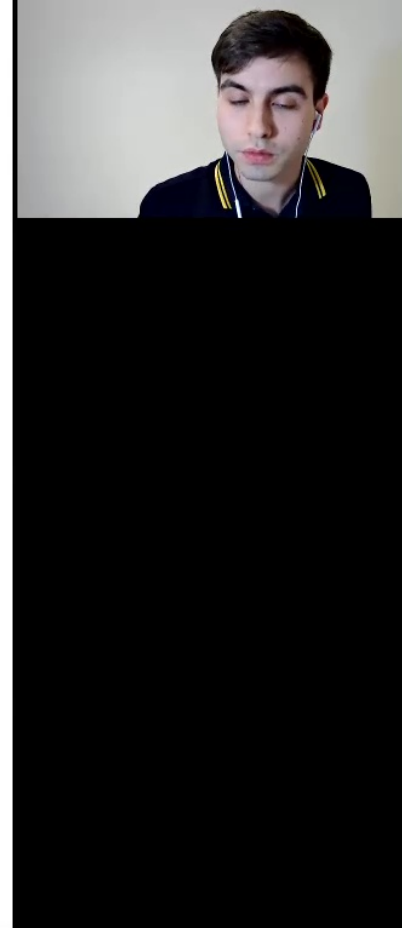
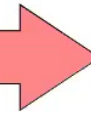
Once evolution equations are coded,  
Study different phenomena:

Infinite static string:

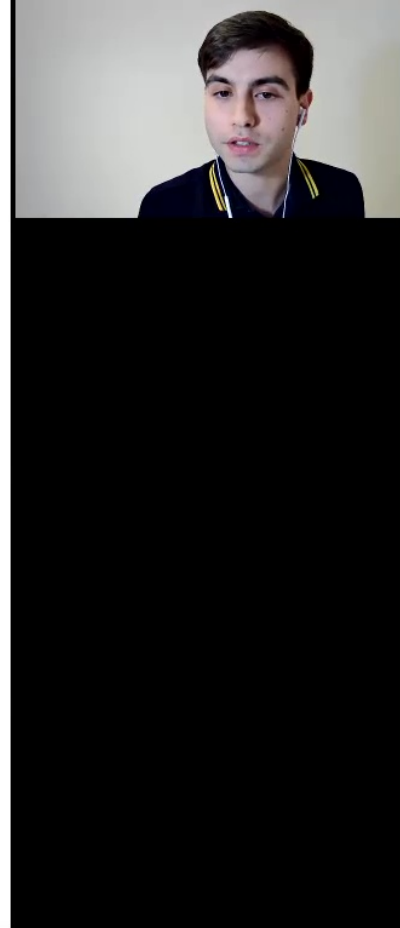
Solve constraints



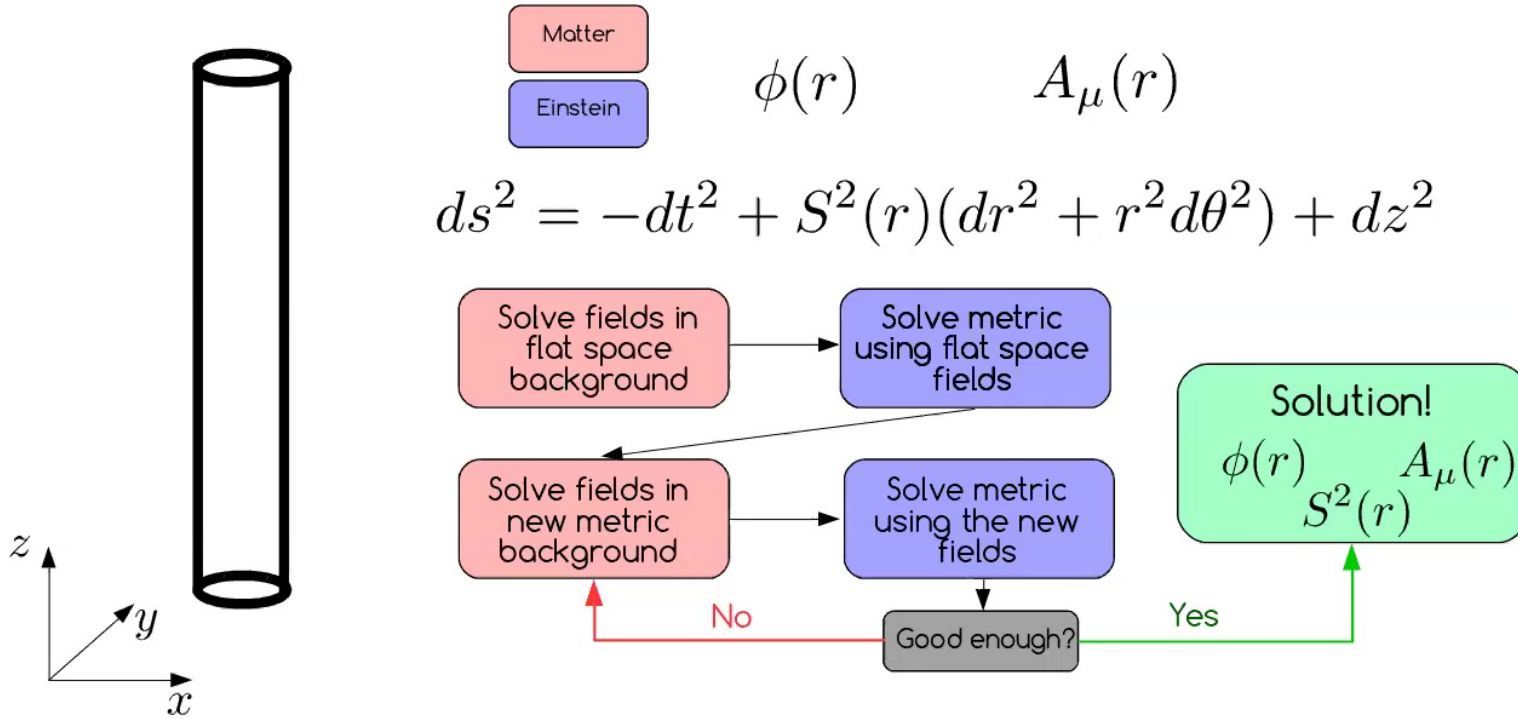
evolve



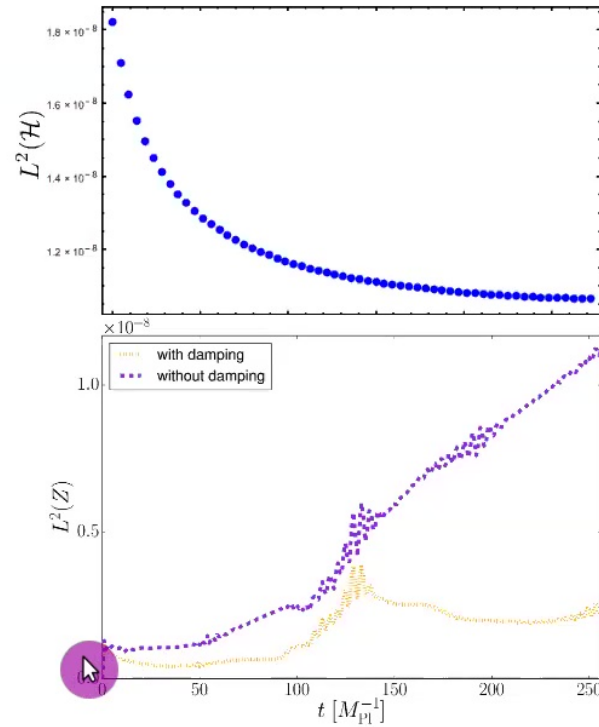
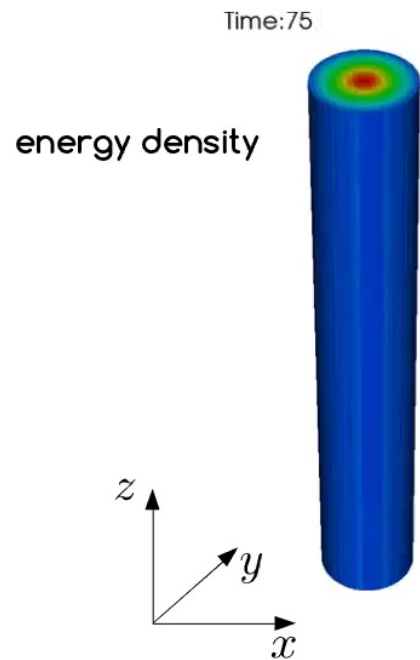
# Infinite Static String



# Initial Data



# Infinite Static String



user: jousu  
Fri Dec 15 10:43:52 2017



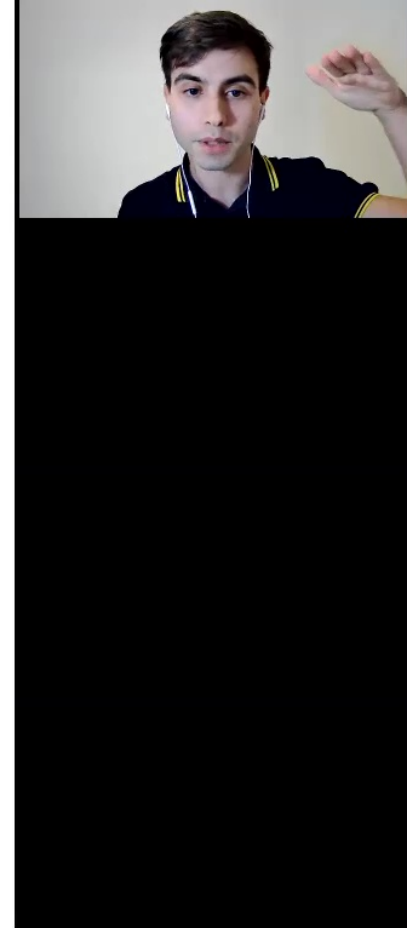
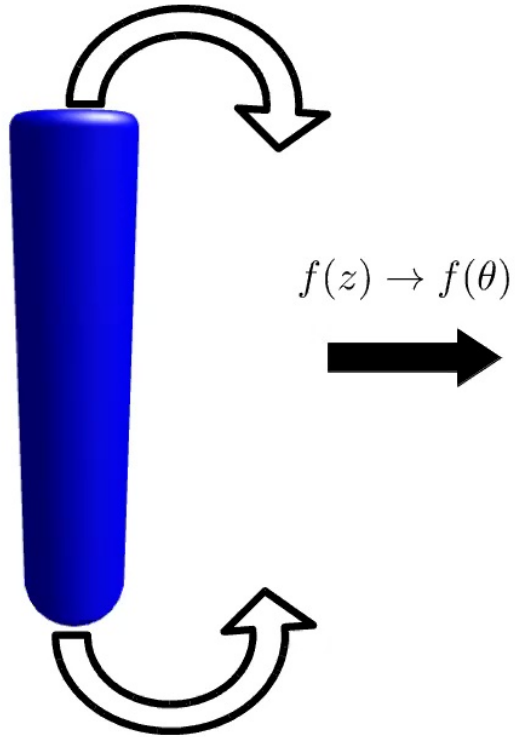


# Cosmic String Loop Collapse



# Initial Data (Matter)

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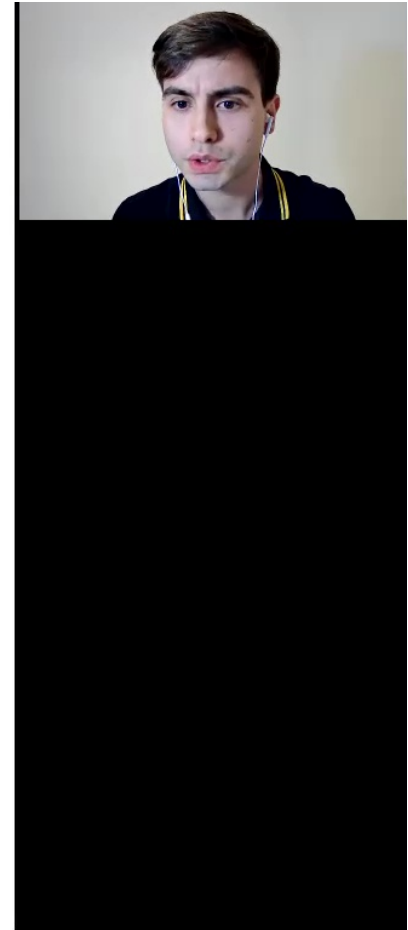


# Initial Data (Matter)

---

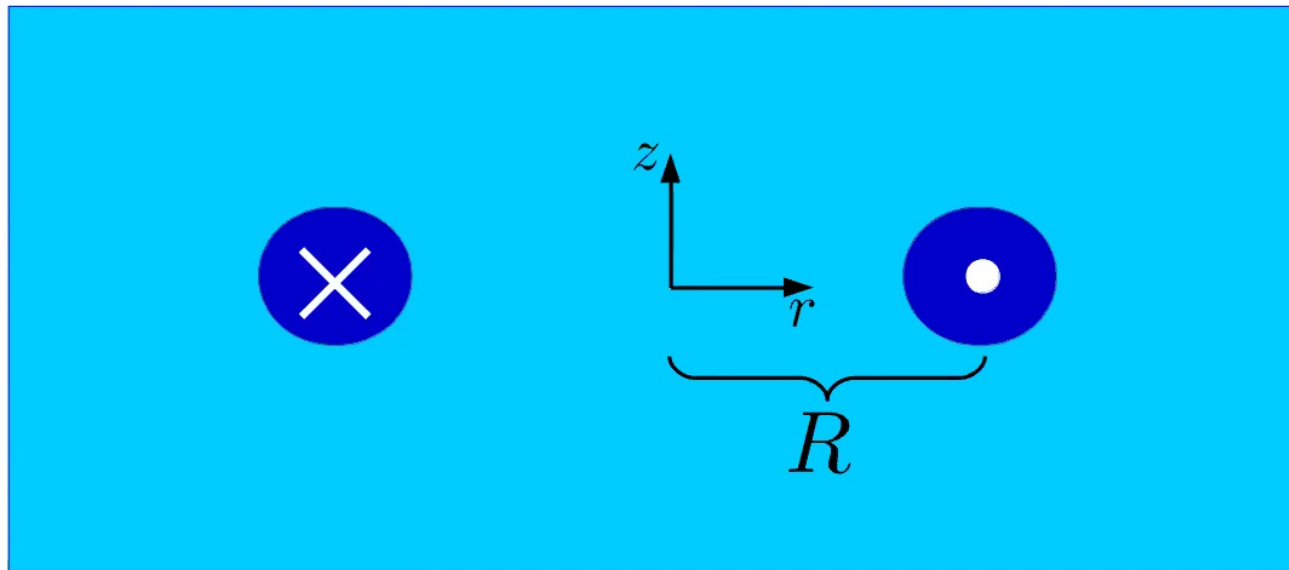


$$f(z) \rightarrow f(\theta)$$



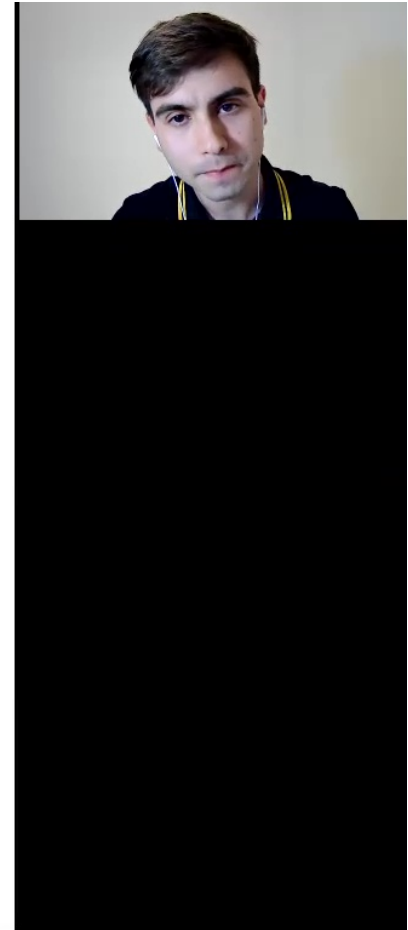
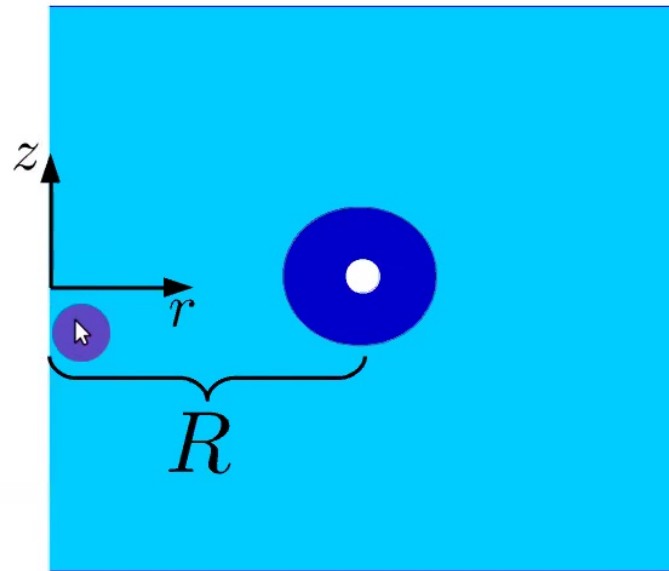
# Initial Data (Gravity)

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# Initial Data (Gravity)

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# Initial Data (Gravity)

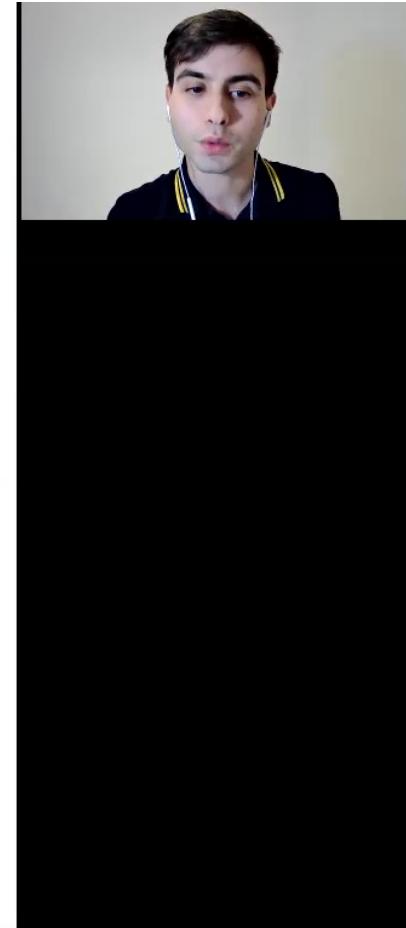
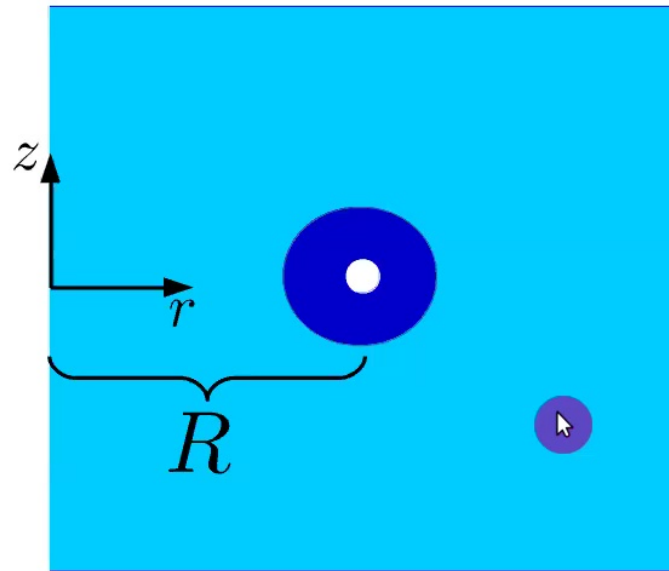
$$\gamma_{ij}dx^i dx^j = \frac{1}{\chi}(dr^2 + r^2 d\theta^2 + dz^2)$$

Solve Ham constraint

$$R + K^2 - K_{ij}K^{ij} - 16\pi\rho = 0$$

Mom constraints satisfied

$$\mathcal{M}_i = 0$$



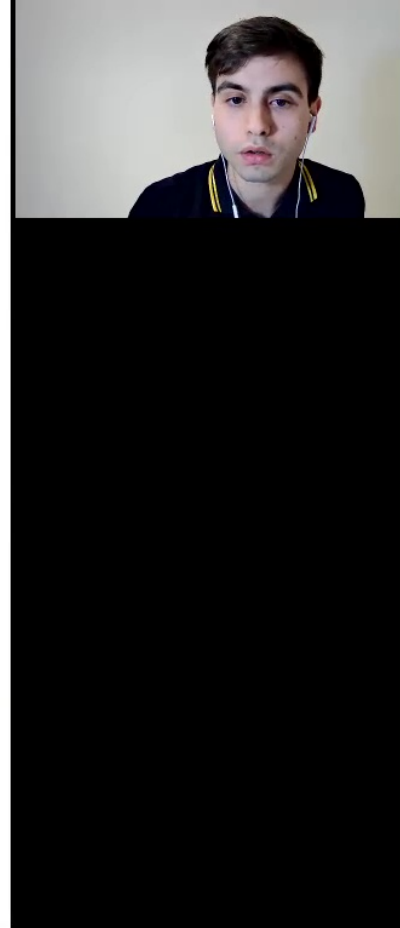
# Recap

---

Bigger parameter space

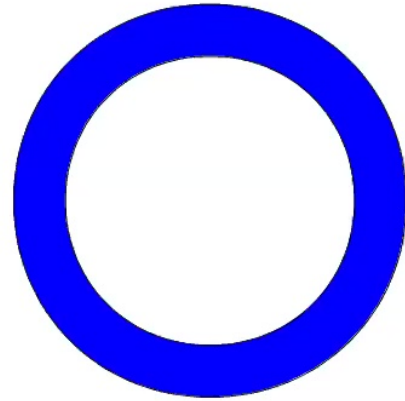
String  $\longrightarrow$   $G\mu$   $\uparrow$  Mass  $\uparrow$

String loop  $\longrightarrow$   $(G\mu, R)$   $\uparrow$  Mass  $\uparrow$



# String Loop Collapse

---



$$M_0 = 2\pi R\mu$$



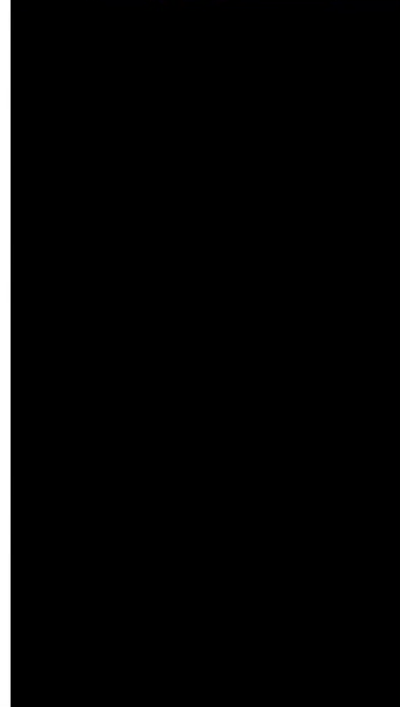


# String Loop Collapse

---



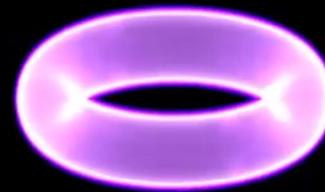
$$M_0 = 2\pi R\mu$$



$$G\mu = 1.6 \times 10^{-2}$$



$$R = 60M_{\text{Pl}}^{-1}$$



$$R = 100M_{\text{Pl}}^{-1}$$



$$G\mu = 1.6 \times 10^{-2}$$



$$R = 60M_{\text{Pl}}^{-1}$$



$$R = 100M_{\text{Pl}}^{-1}$$



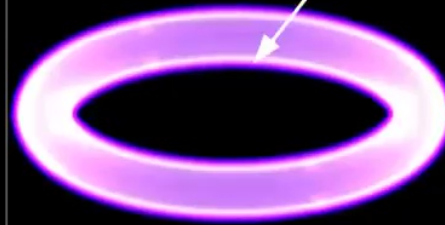
$$G\mu = 1.6 \times 10^{-2}$$

disperse



$$R = 60M_{\text{Pl}}^{-1}$$

black hole

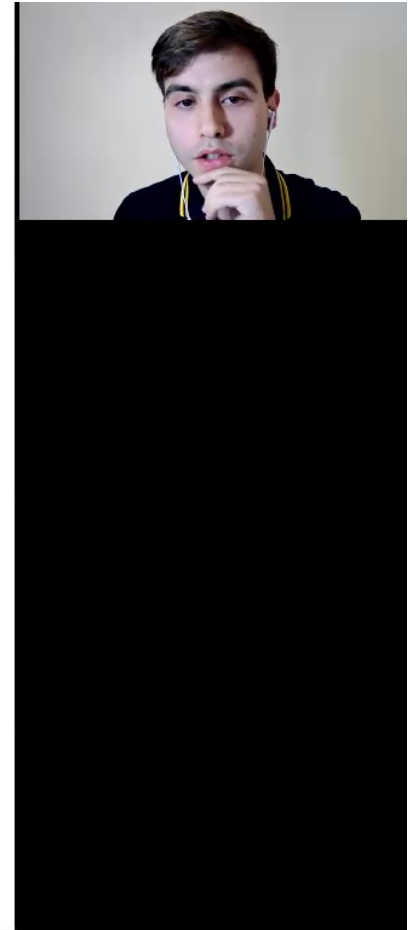


$$R = 100M_{\text{Pl}}^{-1}$$



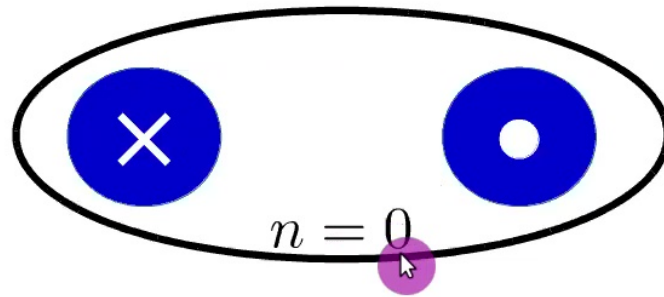
# String Loop Collapse

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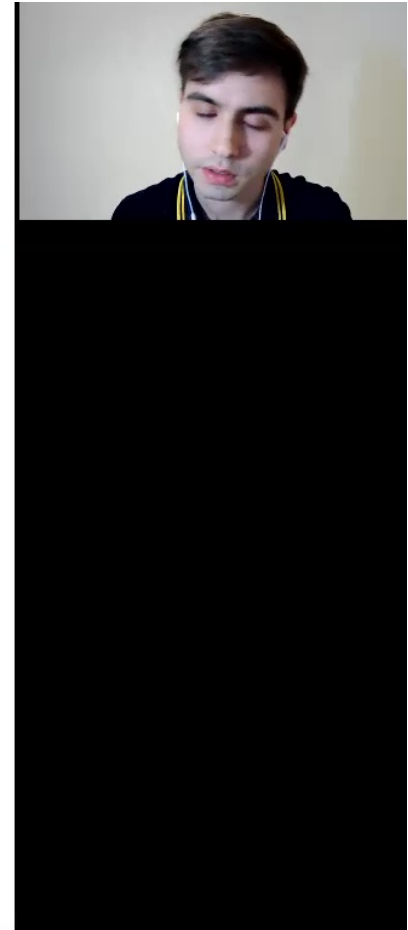
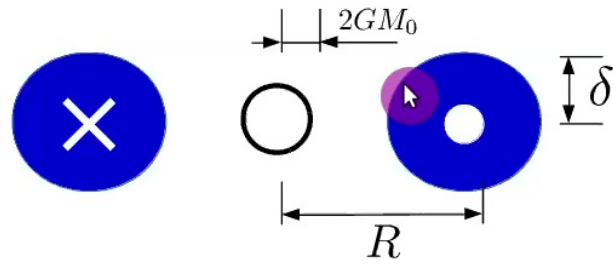
# String Loop Collapse

---



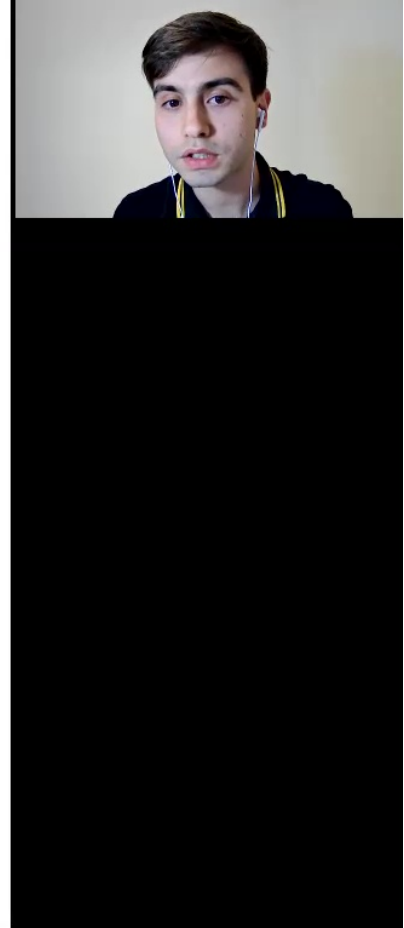
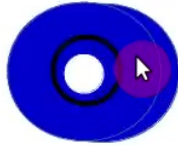
# String Loop Collapse

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# String Loop Collapse

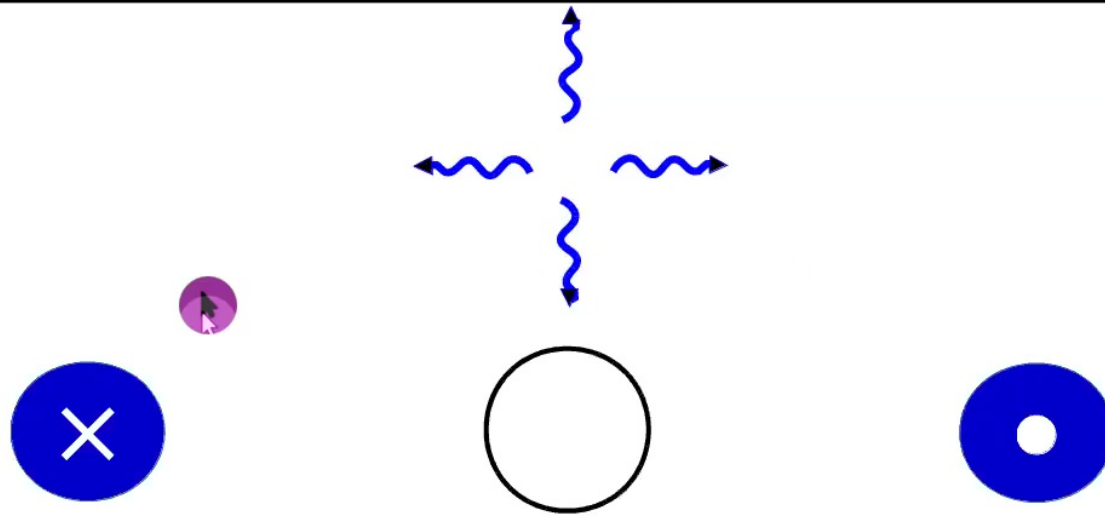
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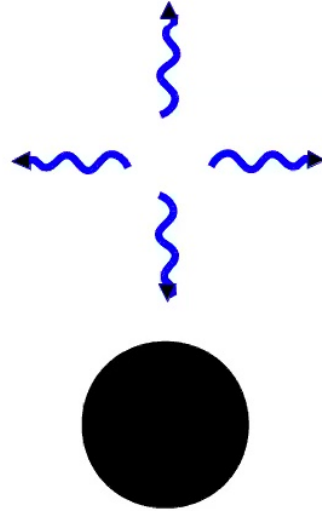


# String Loop Collapse

---



# String Loop Collapse



$$2GM_0 > \delta$$



$$R > \sqrt{\frac{1}{8\pi\lambda}} (G\mu)^{-3/2} M_{pl}^{-1}$$



# String Loop Collapse

Sensitive in LIGO/Virgo/KAGRA if

$$M_{\text{BH}} \approx 100M_{\odot}$$

Current bounds

$$G\mu \lesssim 10^{-7} - 10^{-10}$$

Solar system sized loops!

$$R_0 \gtrsim 1 - 10^3 \text{ a.u.}$$

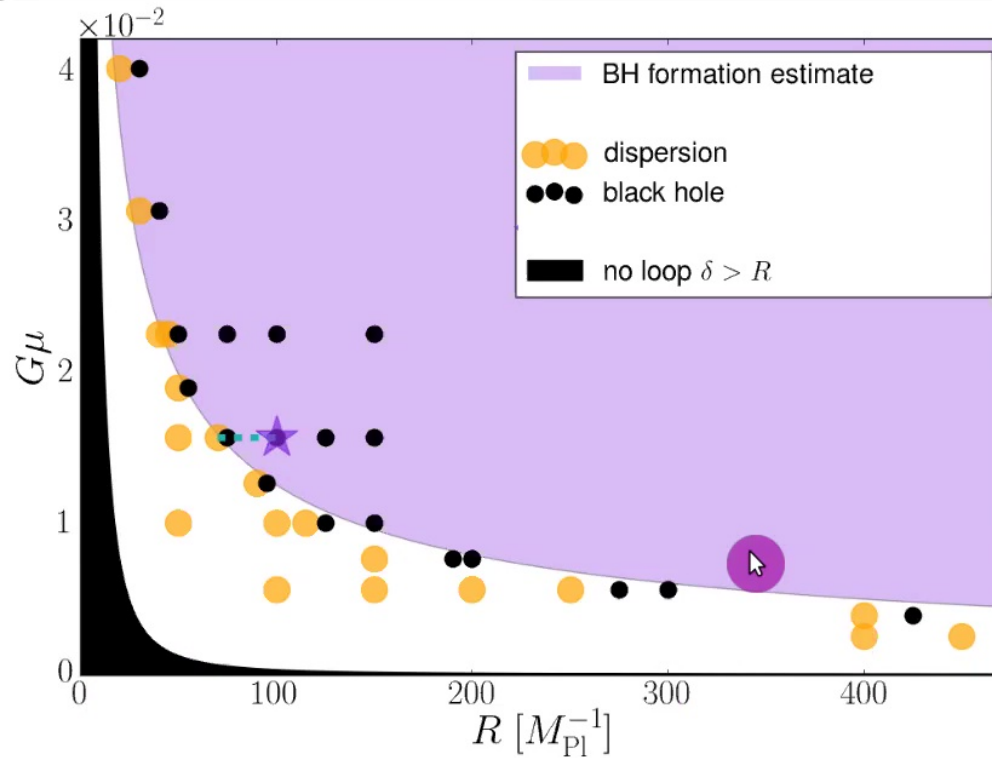
$$2GM_0 > \delta$$



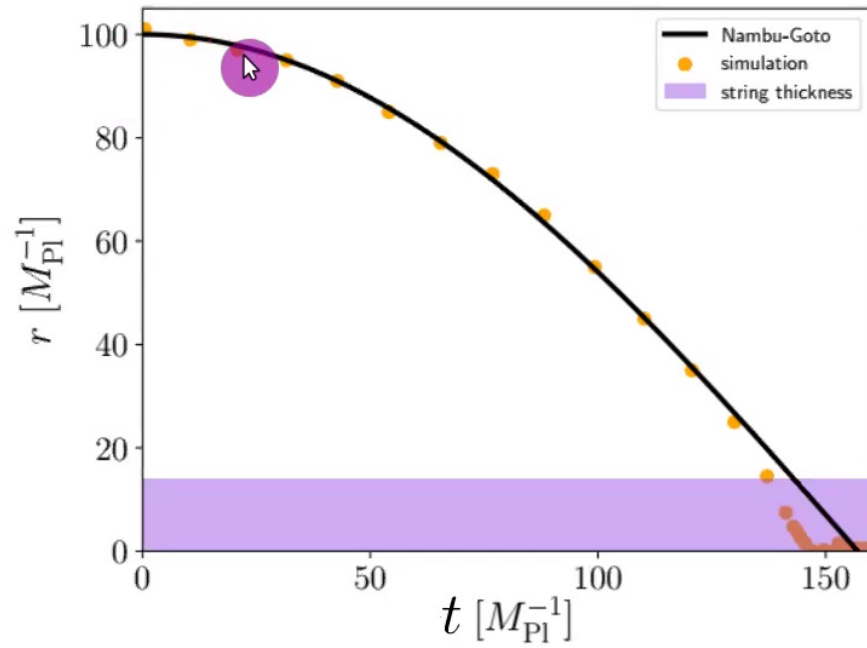
$$R > \sqrt{\frac{1}{8\pi\lambda}} (G\mu)^{-3/2} M_{pl}^{-1}$$



# String Loop Collapse

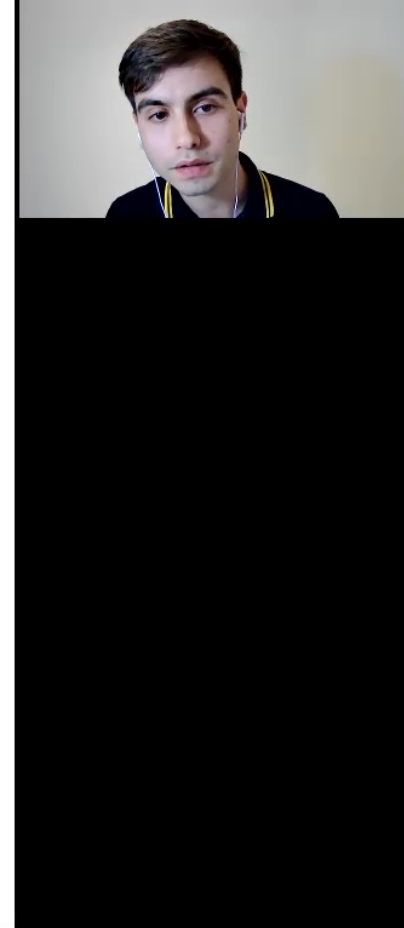


# Comparison with Nambu-Goto

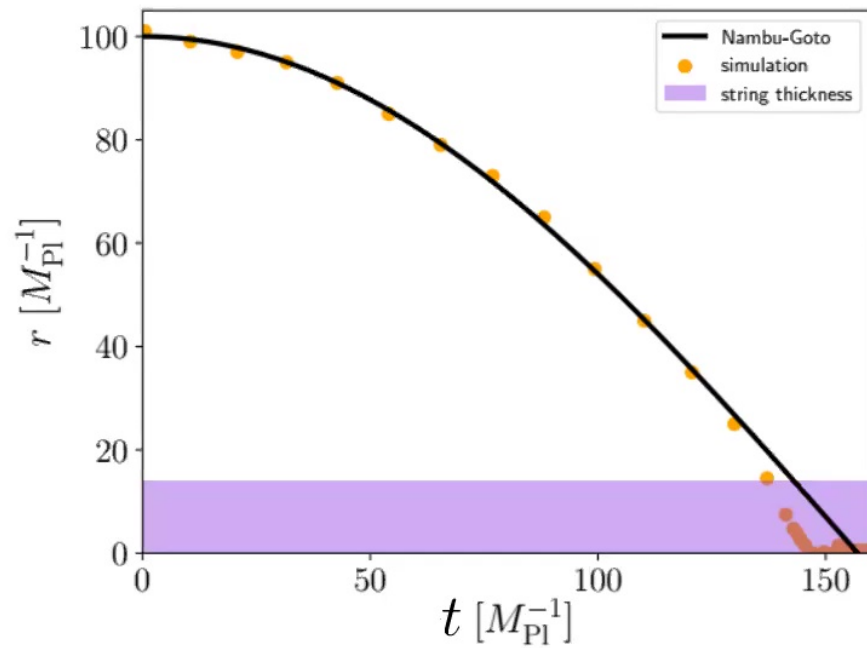


Nambu-Goto loops:

$$r(t) = R \cos\left(\frac{t}{R}\right)$$



# Comparison with Nambu-Goto



Nambu-Goto loops:

$$r(t) = R \cos\left(\frac{t}{R}\right)$$

$v \approx 0.97c$

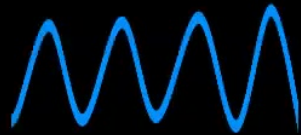


# Gravitational Waves



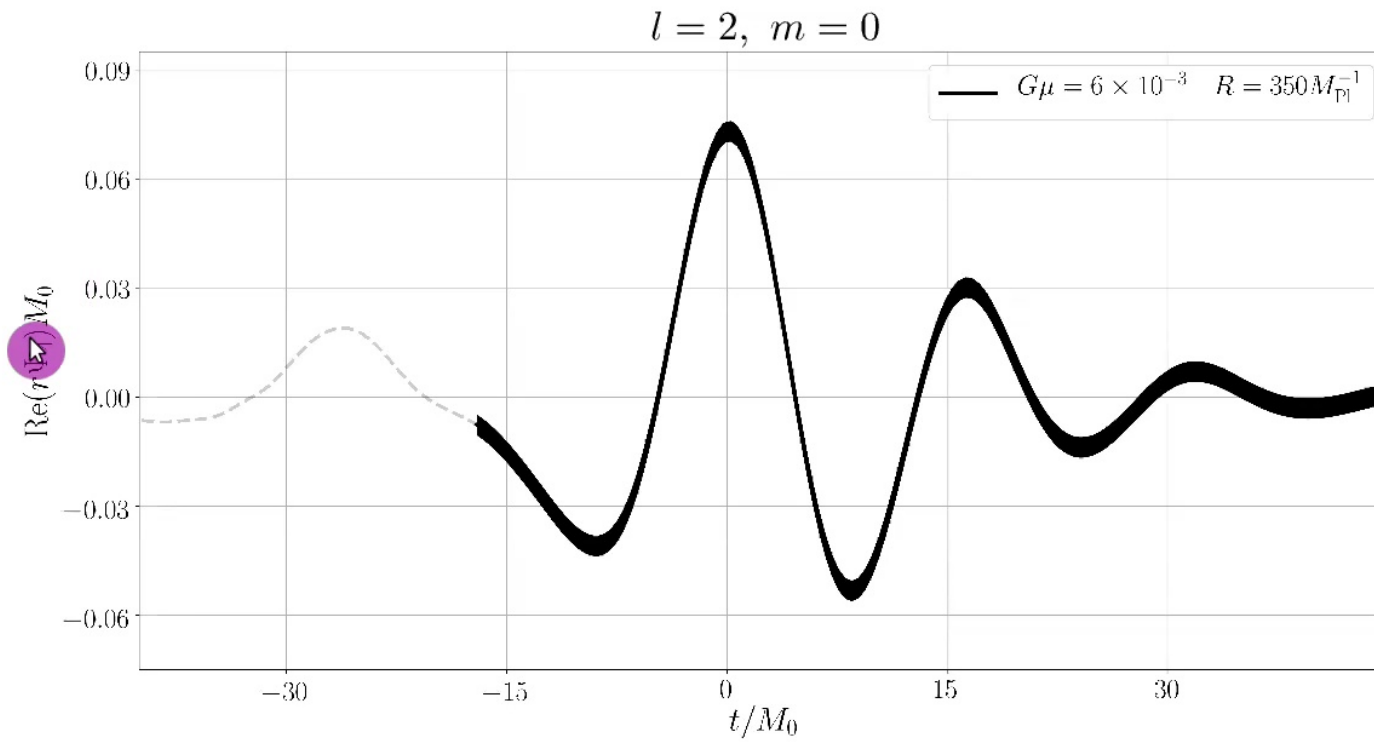
# Gravitational Waves

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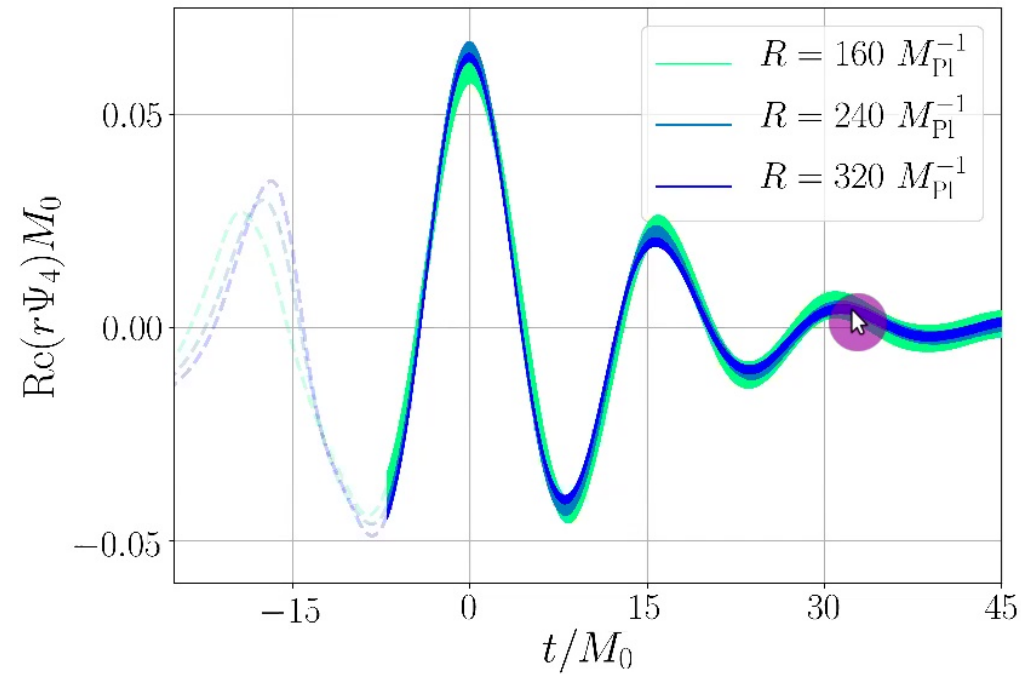


# Gravitational Waves



# Fixed $G\mu$ Vary string radius $R$

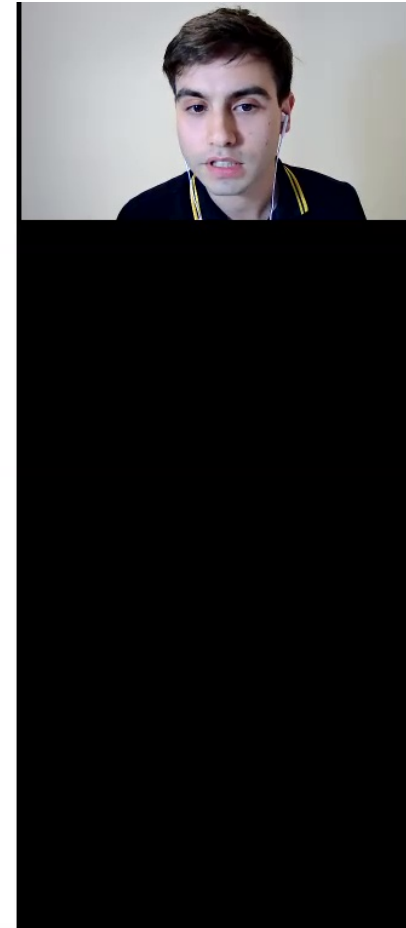
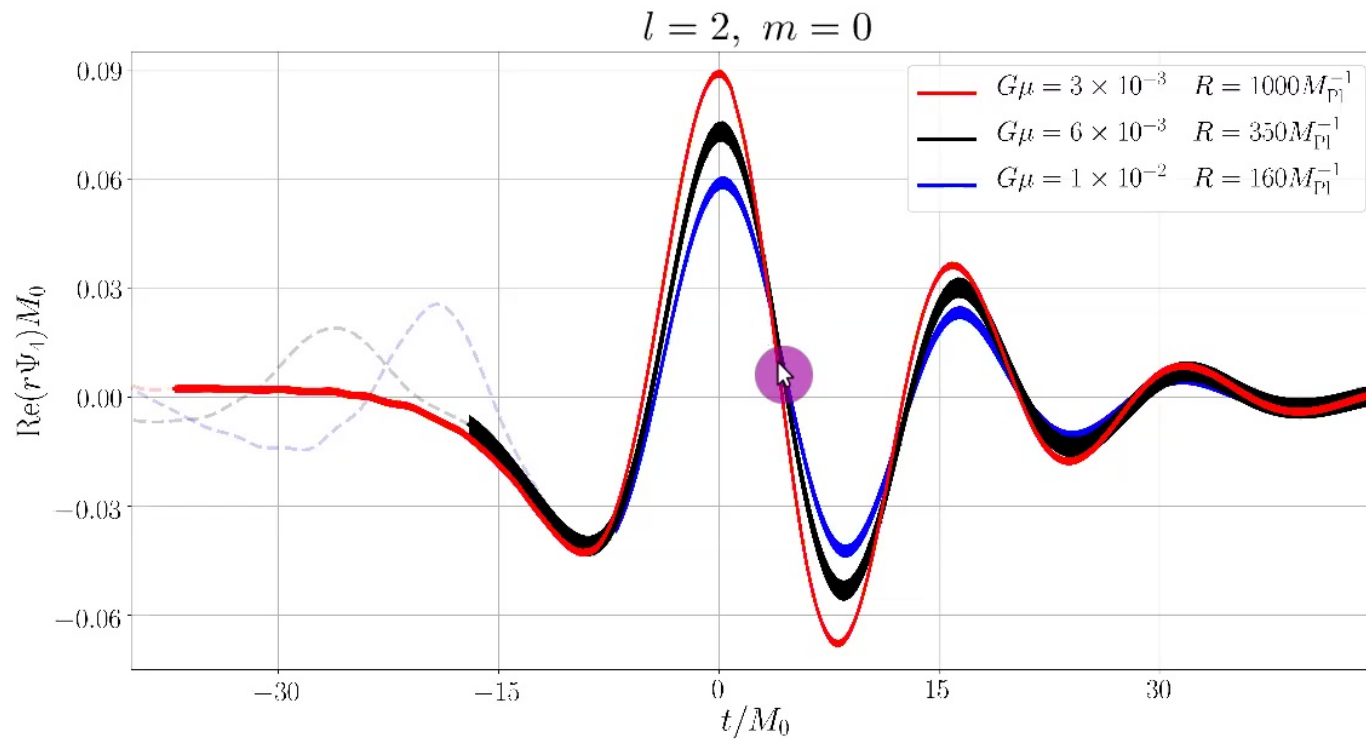
$l = 2, m = 0$



Weakly dependent



# Waveform for different $G\mu$ and $R$



# Why?

---

$$r = R \cos\left(\frac{t}{R}\right)$$

$$v = \sin\left(\frac{t}{R}\right)$$

Black hole formation when:

$$r_* = 2GM_0 = 4\pi R G \mu$$

$$v_* = \sqrt{1 - 16\pi^2 (G\mu)^2}$$

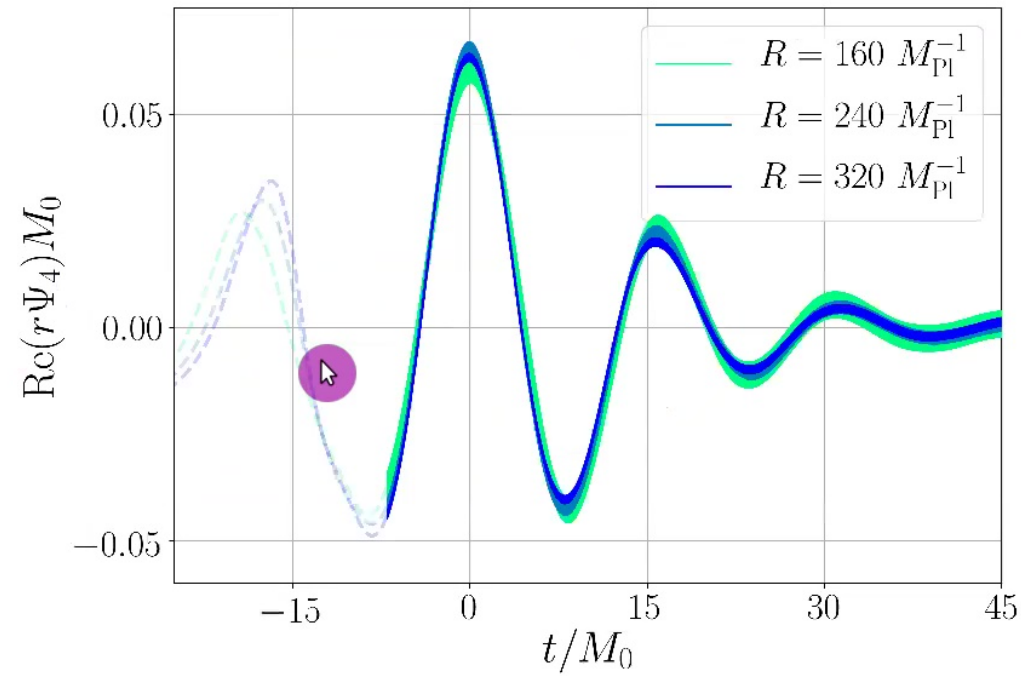
$$\gamma_* = \frac{1}{4\pi G\mu}$$



GWs dominated by kinematics

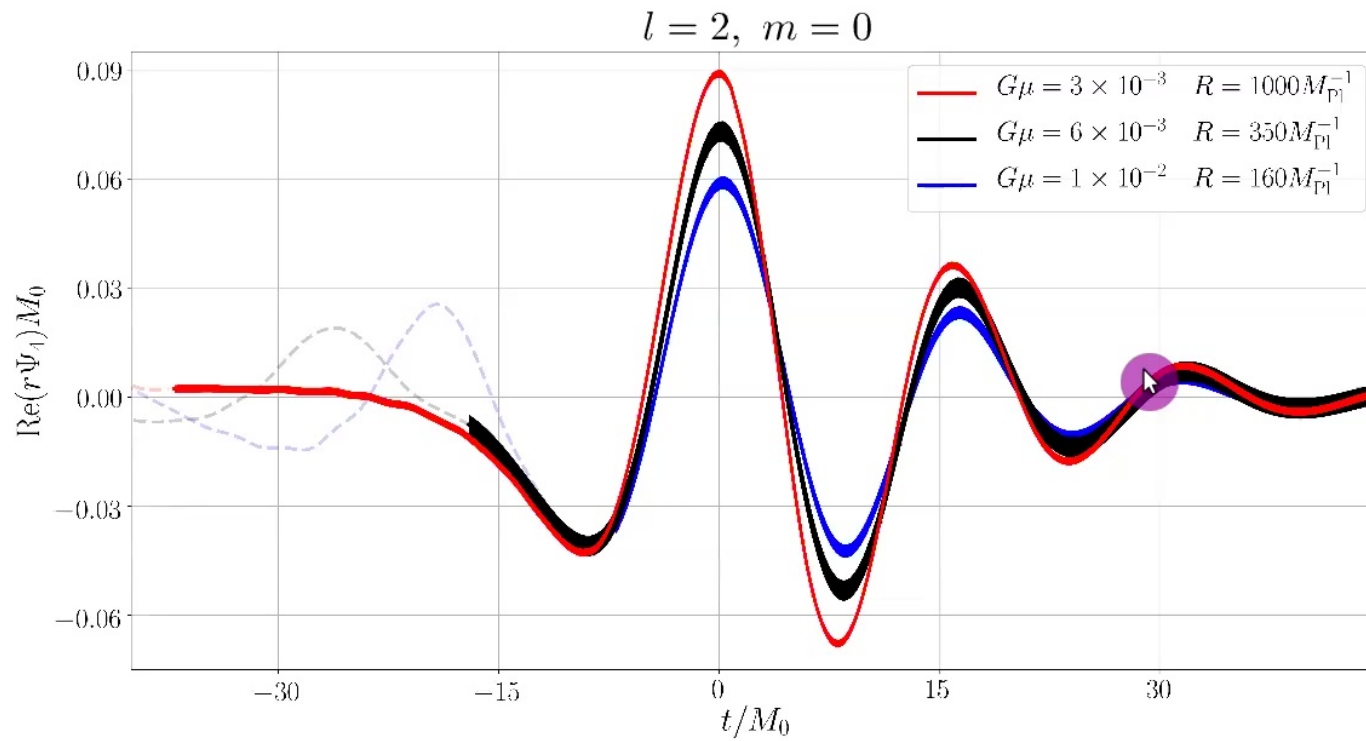
# Fixed $G\mu$ Vary string radius $R$

$l = 2, m = 0$

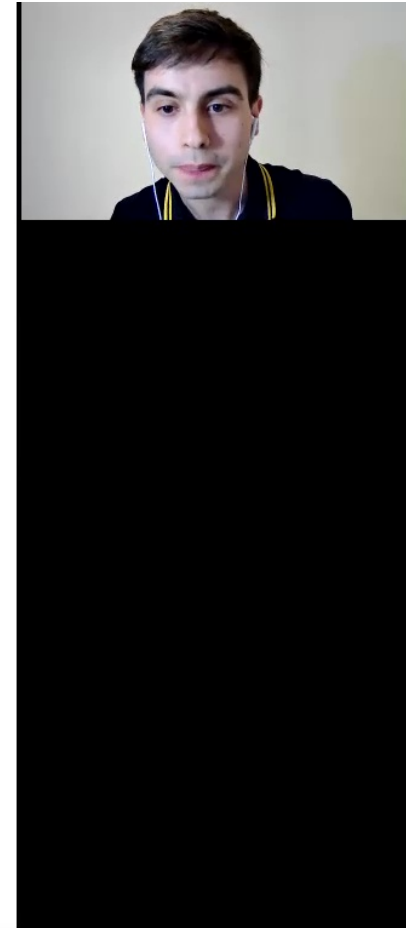
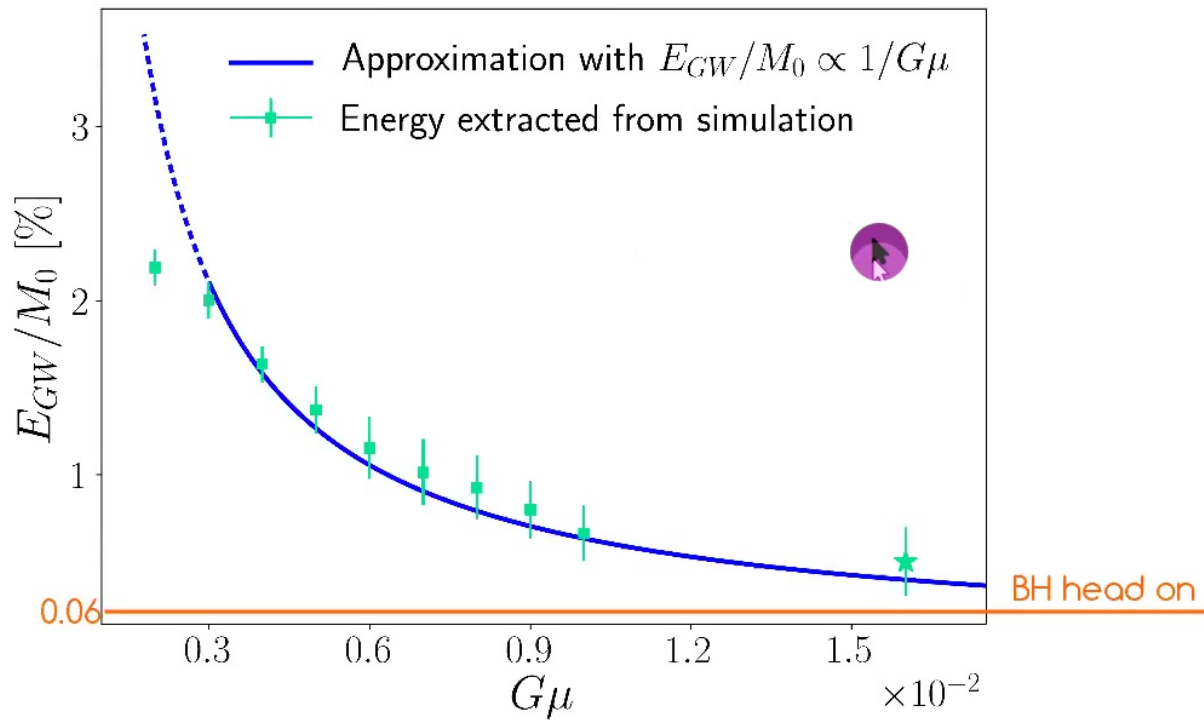


Weakly  
dependent

# Waveform for different $G\mu$ and $R$



# Energy in GWs



## Why?

---

$$r = R \cos\left(\frac{t}{R}\right) \quad v = \sin\left(\frac{t}{R}\right)$$

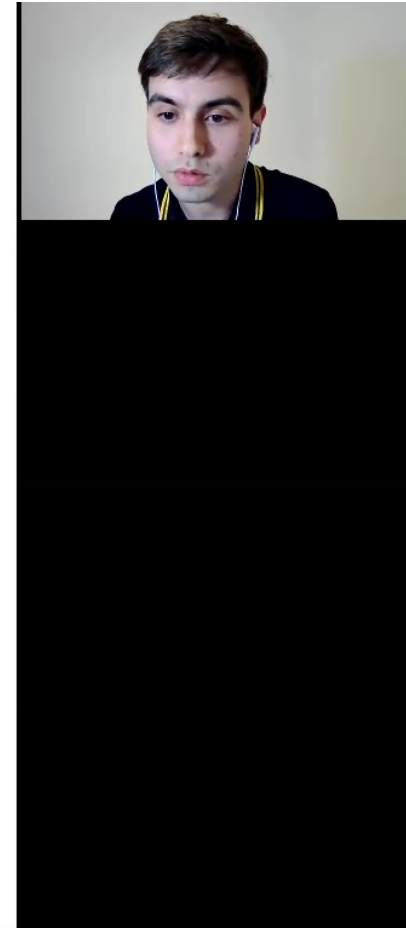
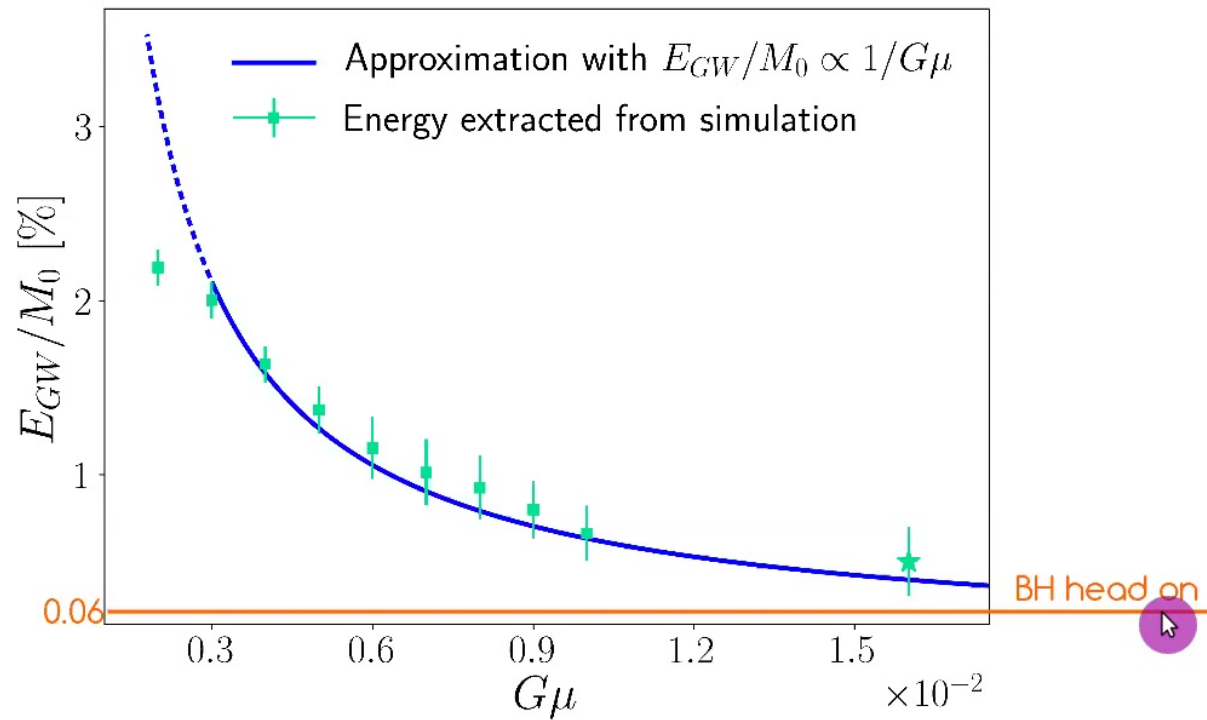
Black hole formation when:  $r_* = 2GM_0 = 4\pi R G \mu$

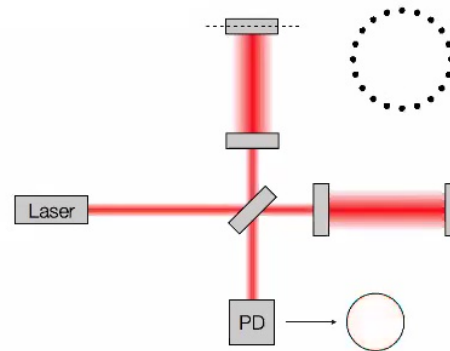
$$v_* = \sqrt{1 - 16\pi^2 (G\mu)^2} \quad \gamma_* = \frac{1}{4\pi G\mu}$$

GWs dominated by kinematics

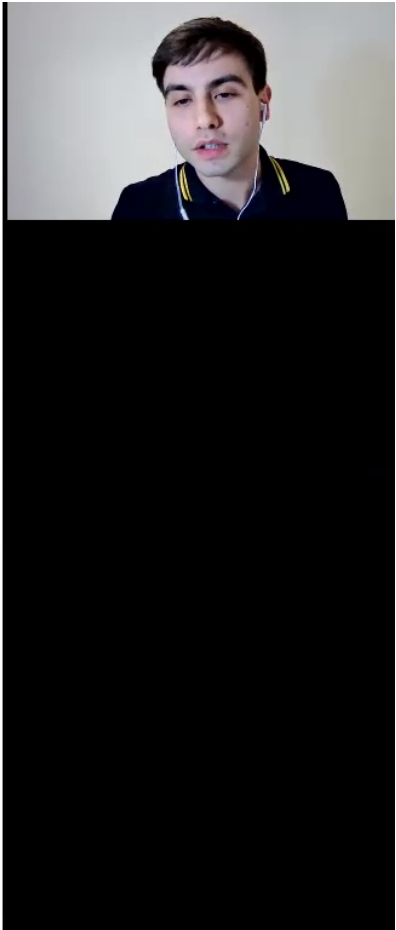


# Energy in GWs

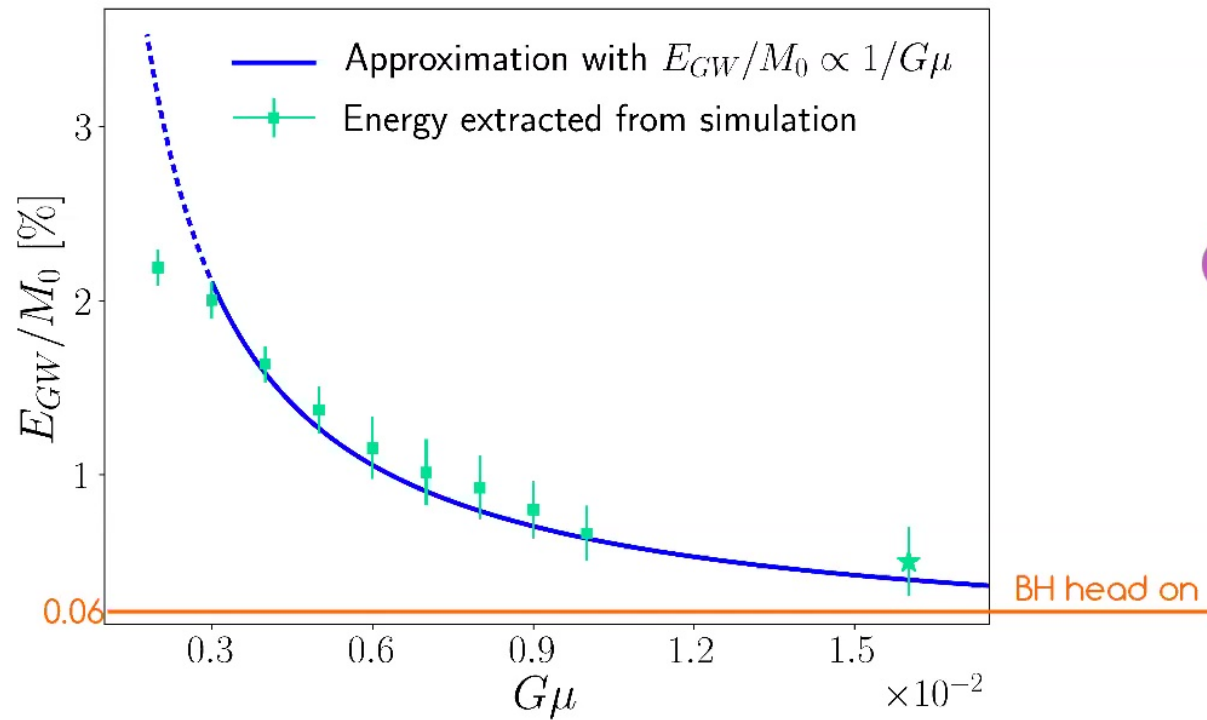




Strain Waveform  $h_+$   $h_\times$

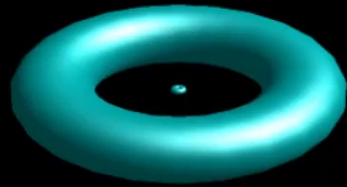


# Energy in GWs



# Is it degenerate with BH-BH?

---



same mass

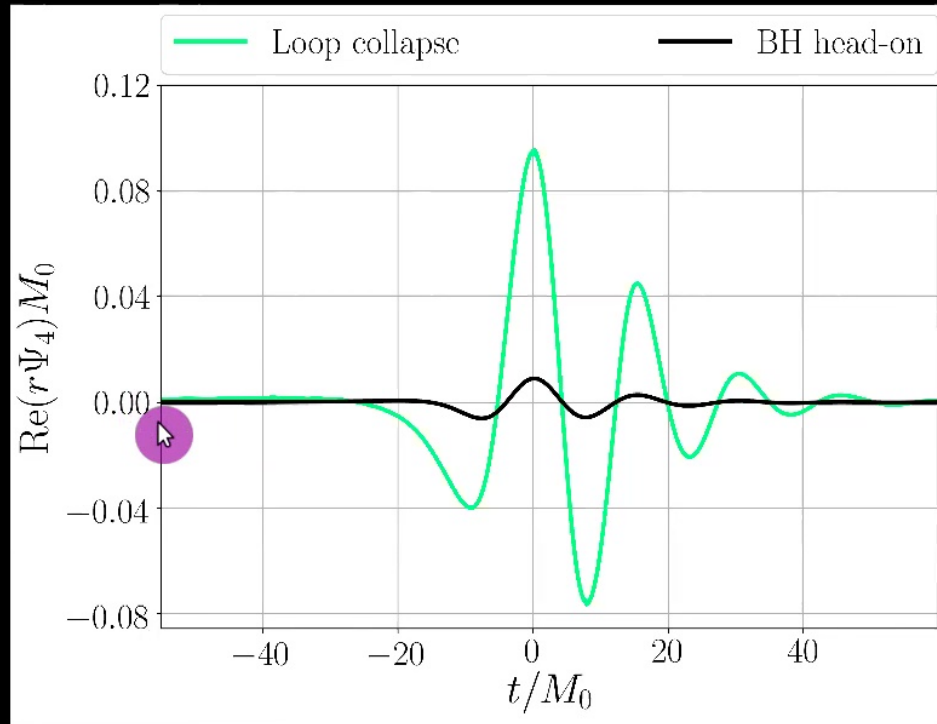


$d$

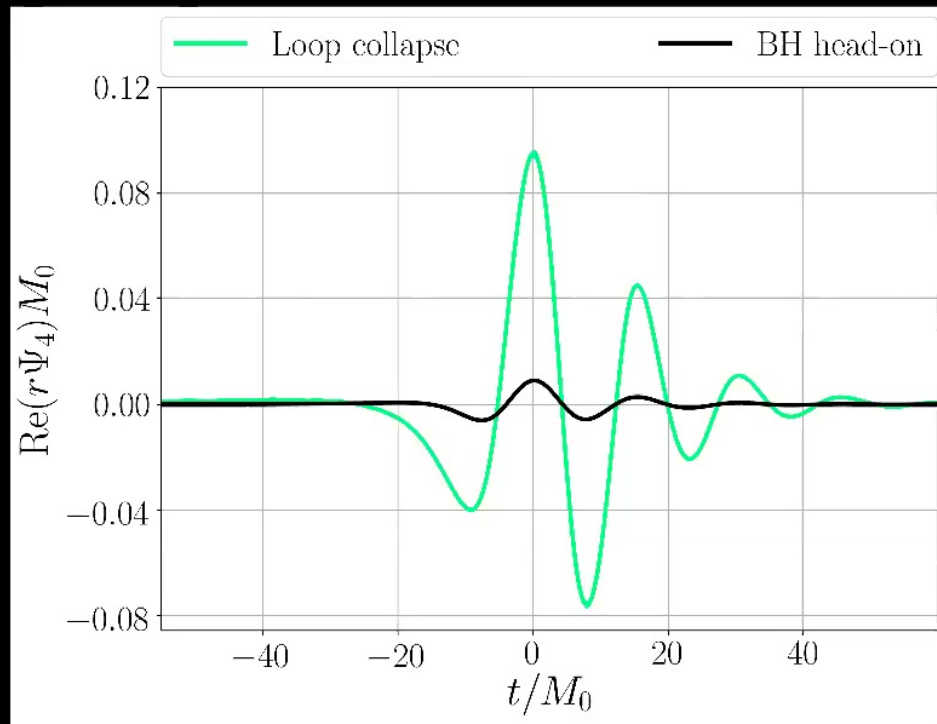
$d$



# Is it degenerate with BH-BH?



# Is it degenerate with BH-BH?

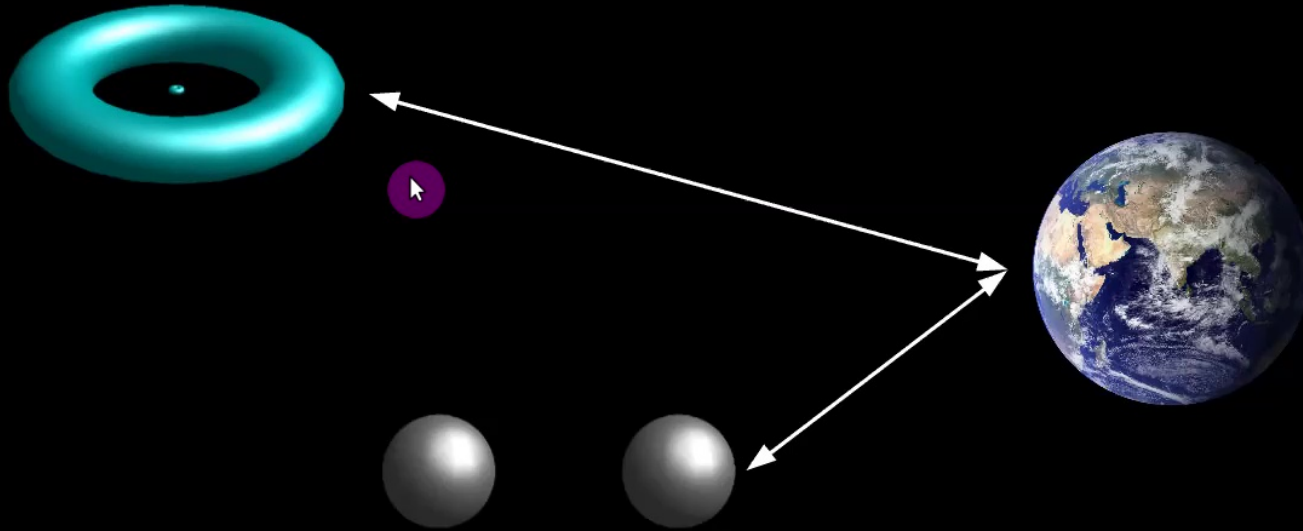


Remember loop collapse is ~30 times more energetic

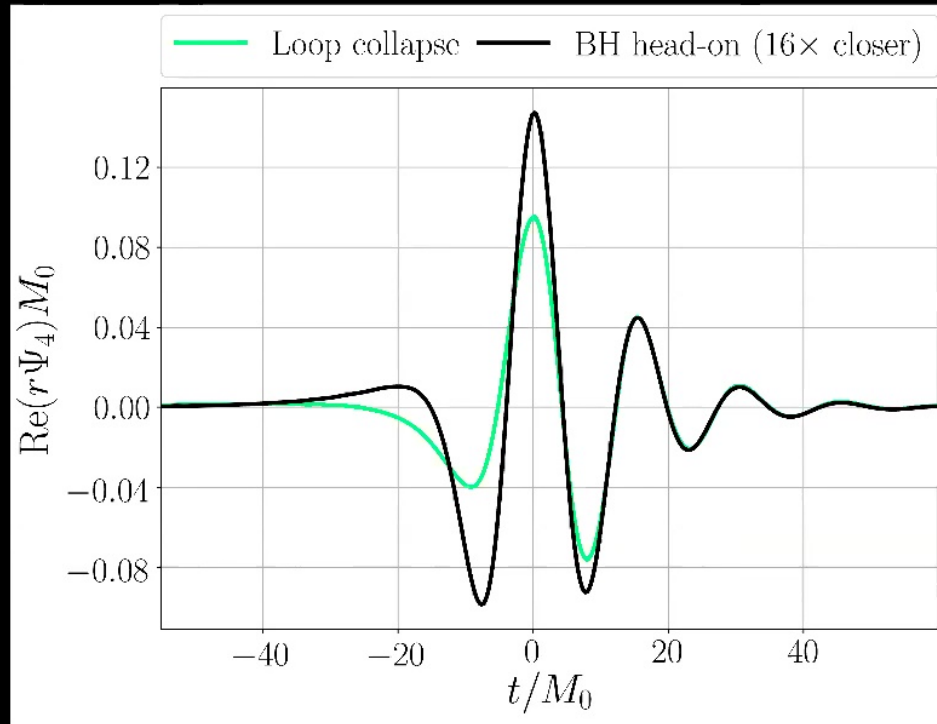
2% vs 0.06%

# Is it degenerate with BH-BH?

---



# Is it degenerate with BH-BH?

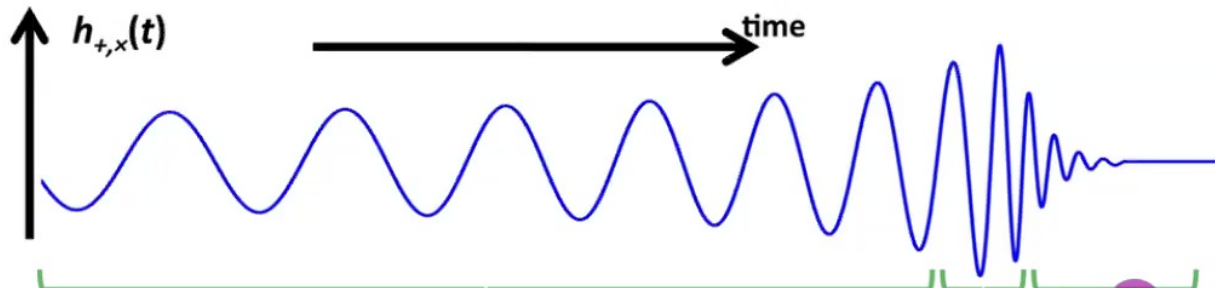


Answer:

NO



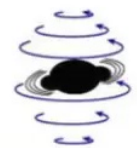
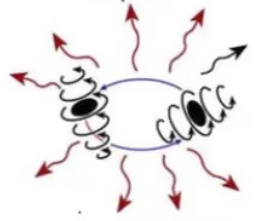
# BBH waveform



Inspiral

Merger

Ringdown



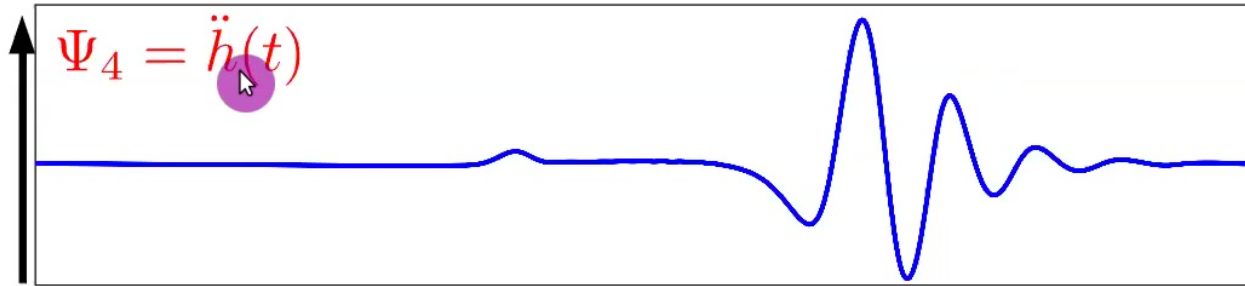
Post-Newtonian techniques

Numerical Relativity

Perturbation theory



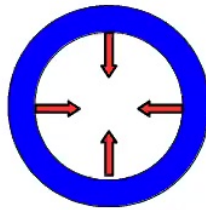
# String loop waveform



Infall

Merger

Ringdown



Weak field



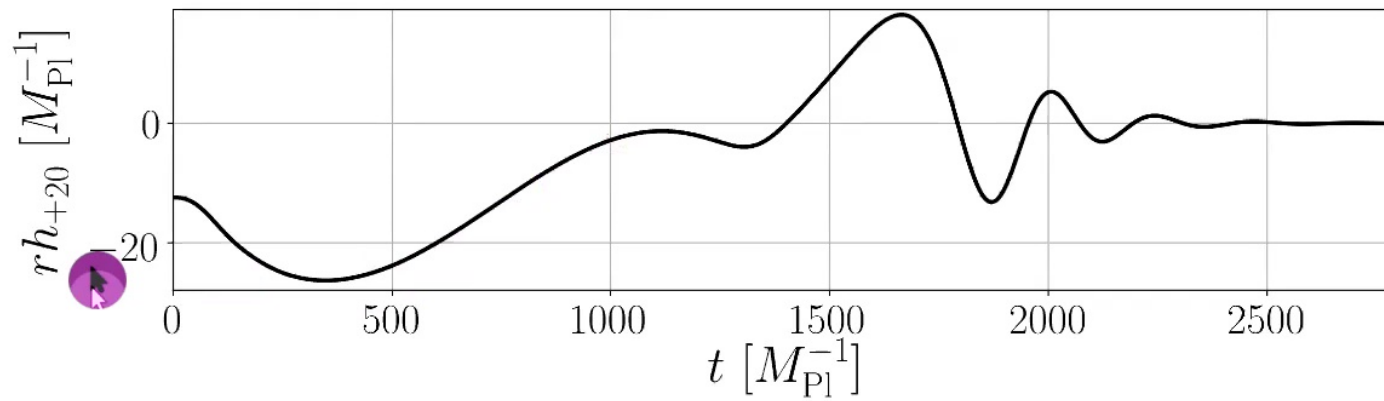
Numerical  
Relativity



Perturbation  
theory

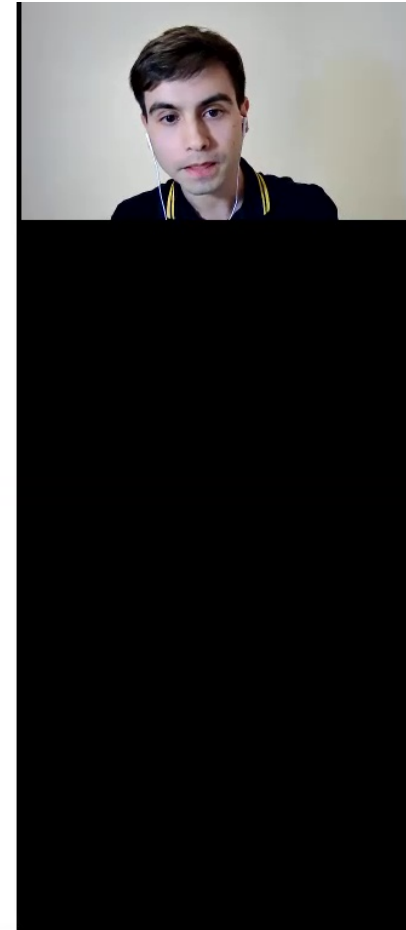
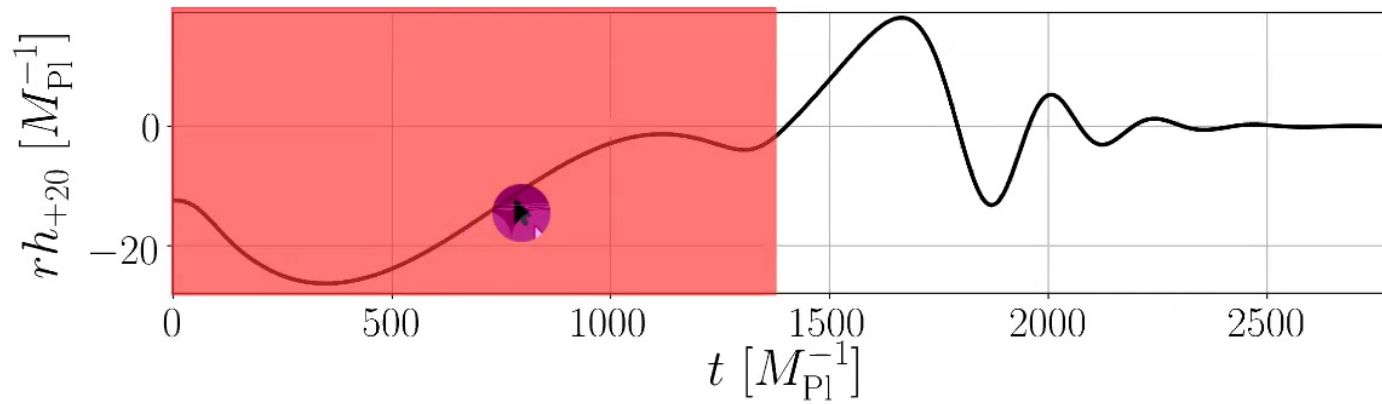
# Strain waveform

Integrate  $\ddot{h}(t) = \Psi_4(t) \longrightarrow h(t) + B$



# Strain waveform

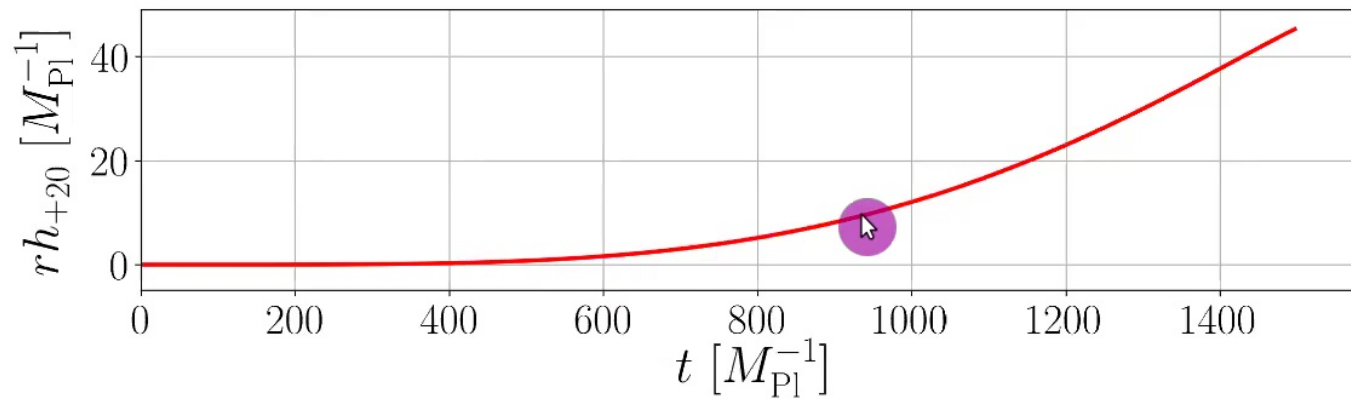
Integrate  $\ddot{h}(t) = \Psi_4(t) \longrightarrow h(t) + B$



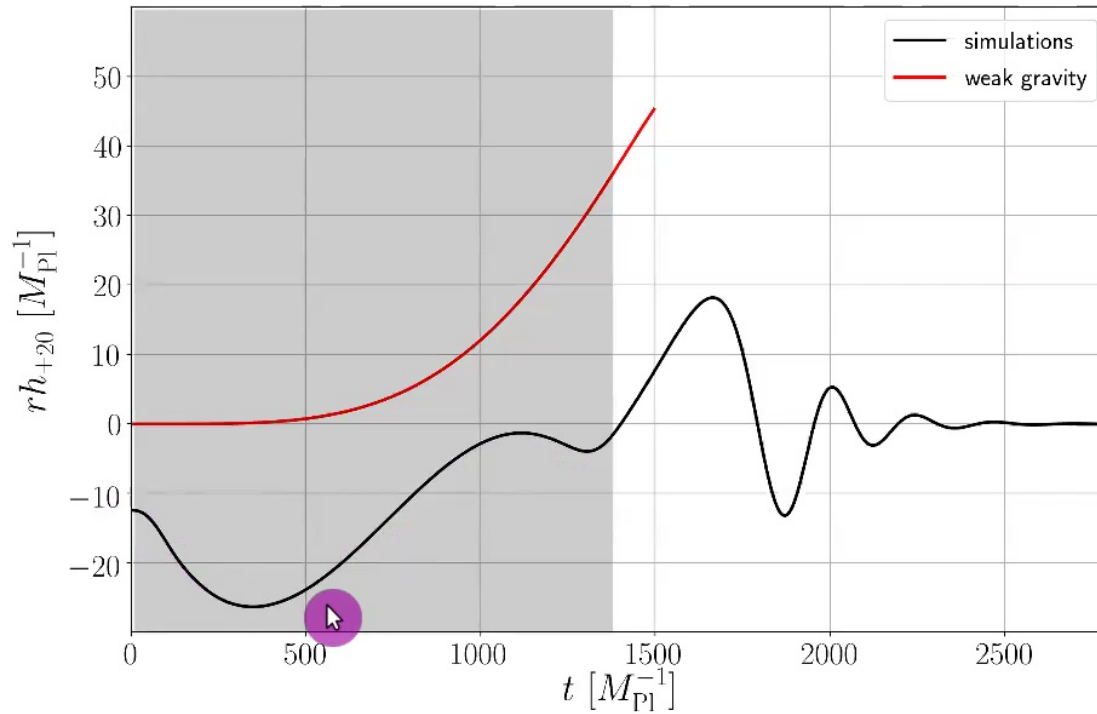
# Infall

Quadrupole formula **only** valid at low speeds. Use:

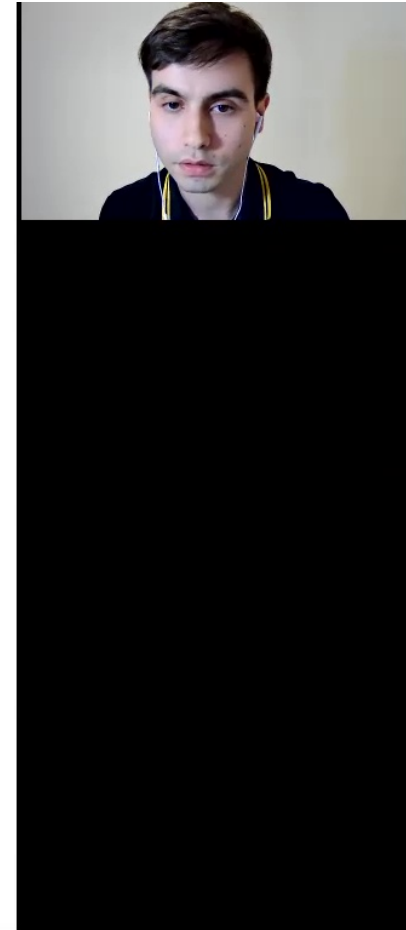
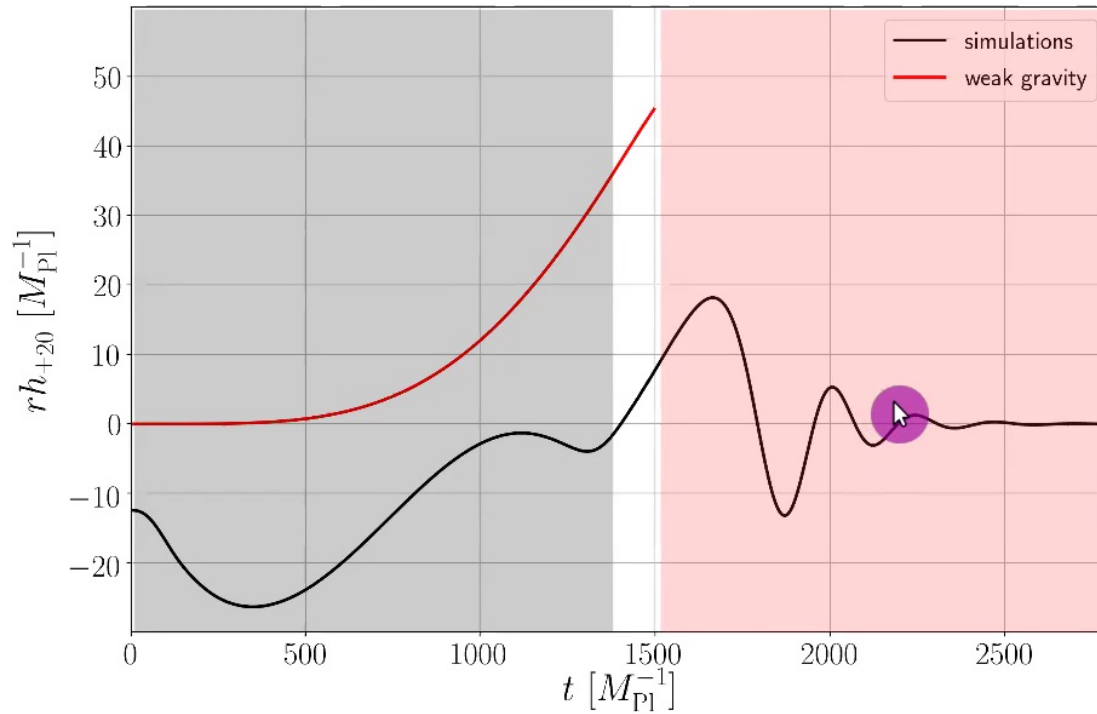
$$rh_{ij}^{TT}(t) = 4G\Lambda_{ij,kl}(\mathbf{n}) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3x T_{kl}(t + \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{n}, \mathbf{x})$$



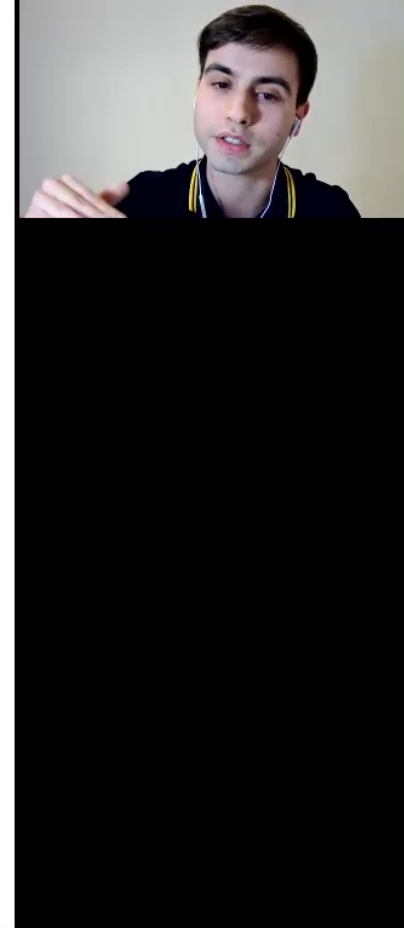
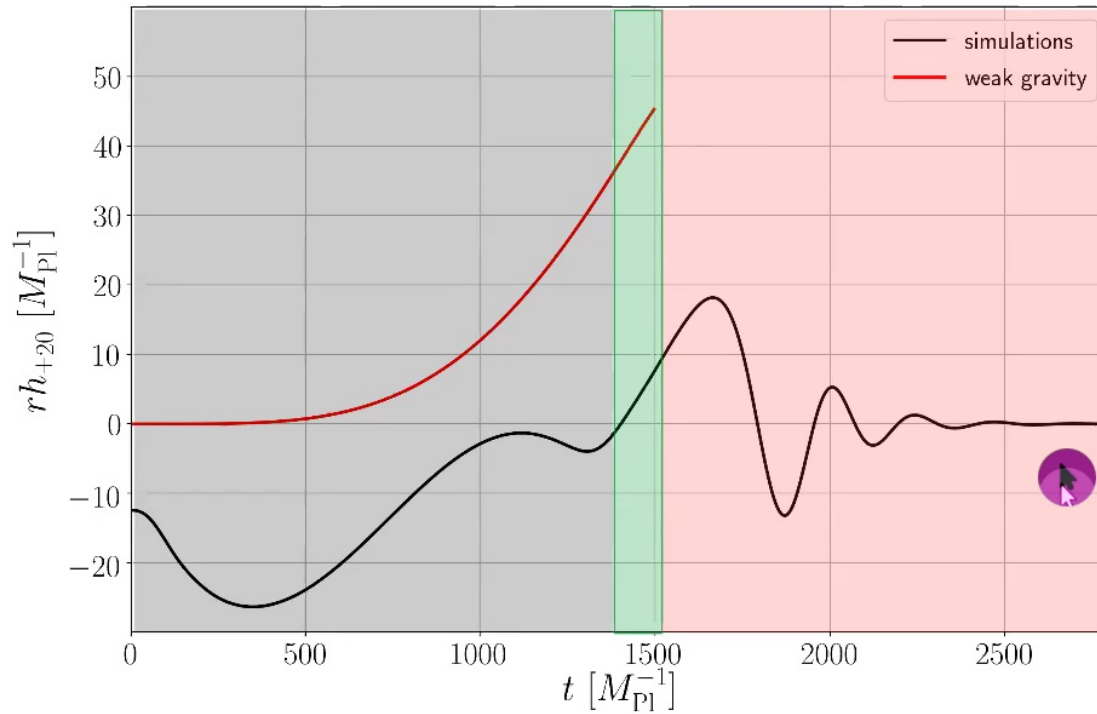
# Matching Infall + Merger + Ringdown



# Matching Infall + Merger + Ringdown

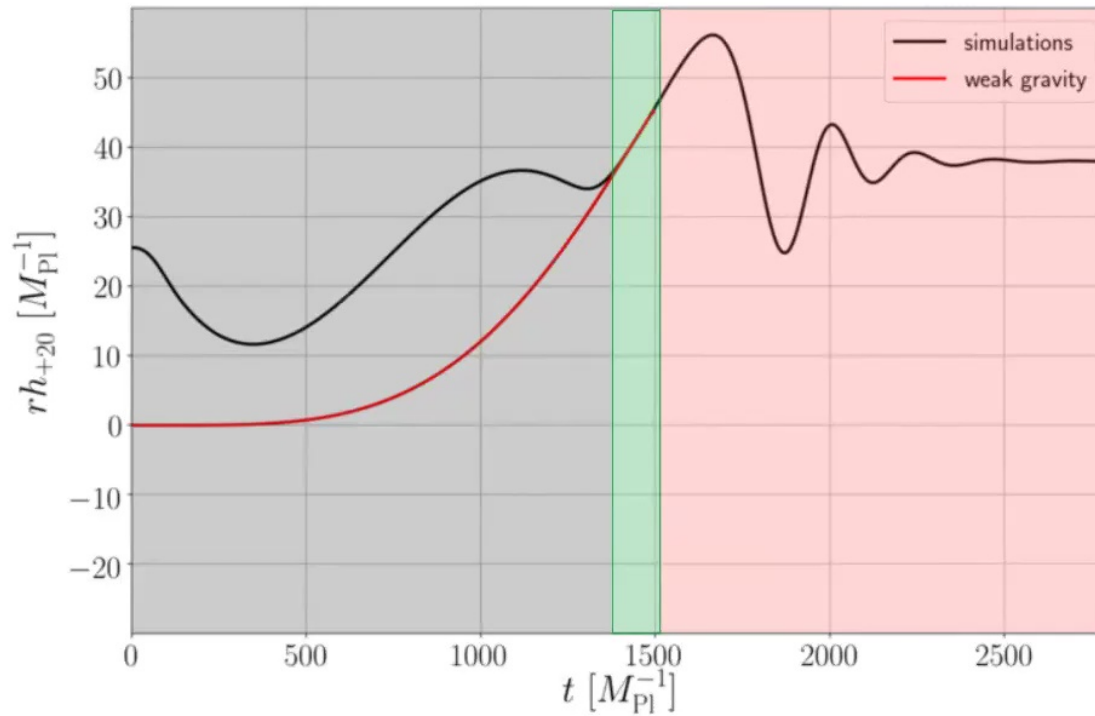


# Matching Infall + Merger + Ringdown

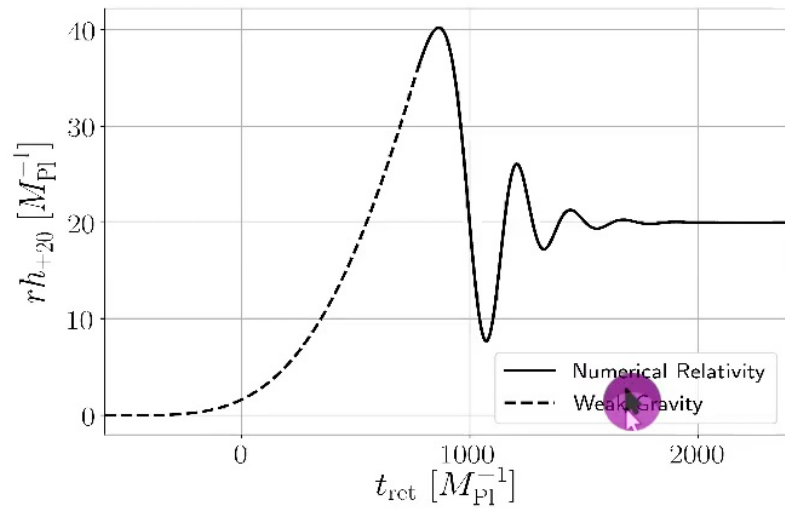




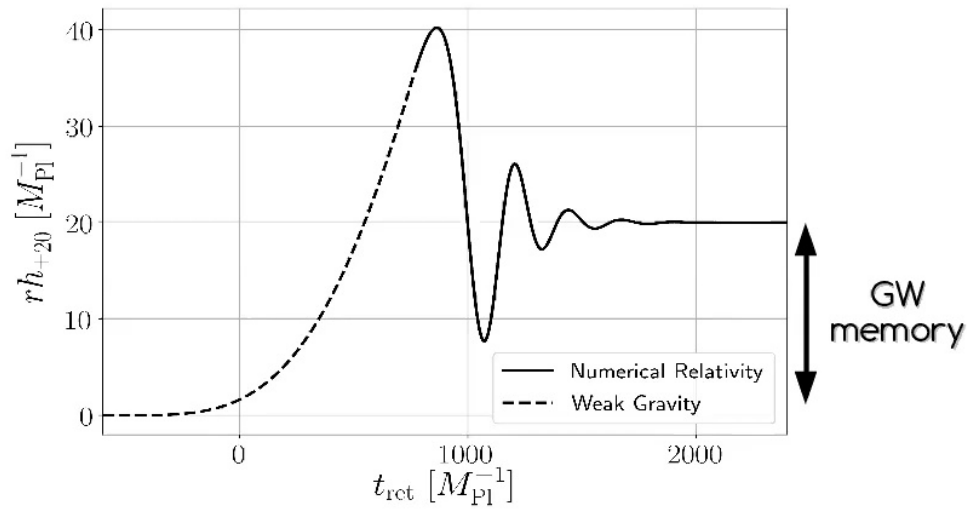
# Matching Infall + Merger + Ringdown



# Matching Infall + Merger + Ringdown



# Matching Infall + Merger + Ringdown



## Linear memory

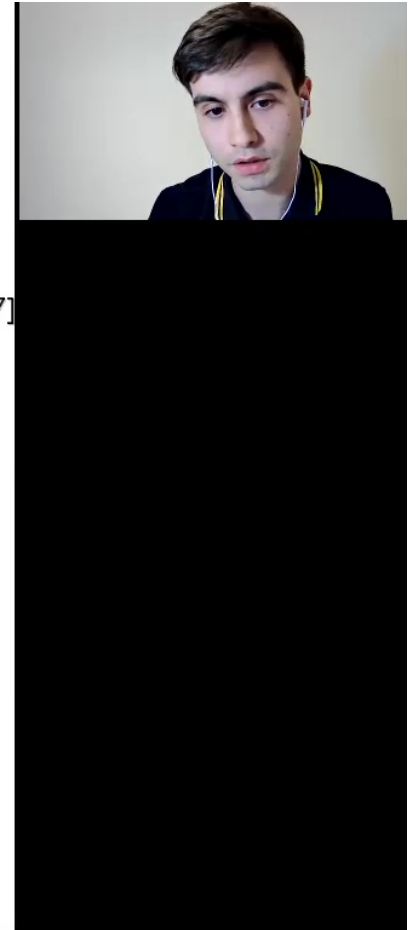
[Zel'Dovich & Polnarev '74; Braginsky & Grishchuk '85; Braginsky & Thorne '87]

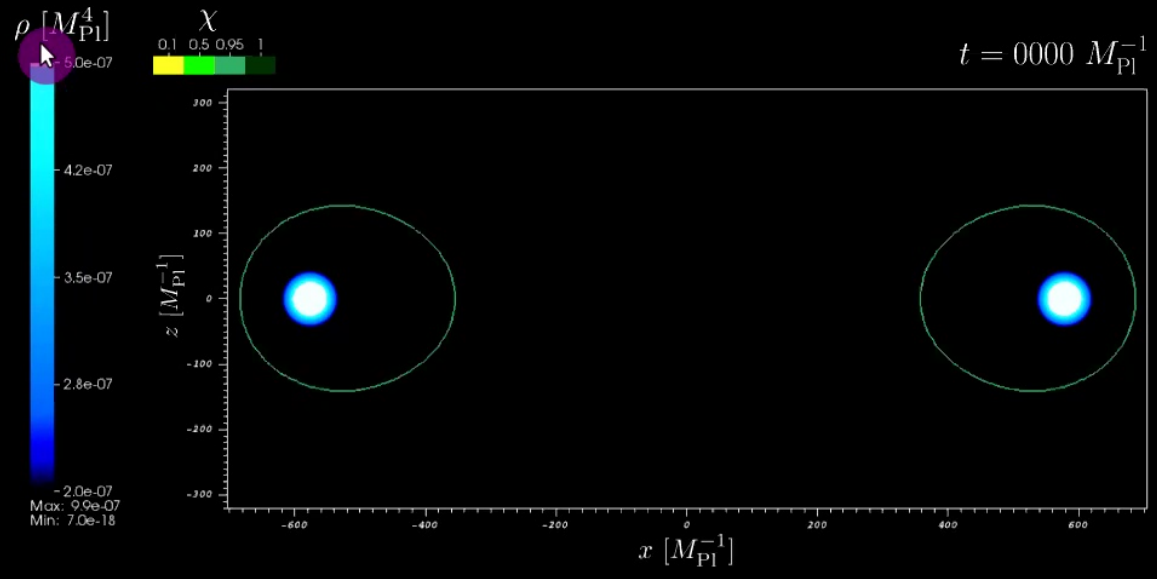
## Non-linear memory

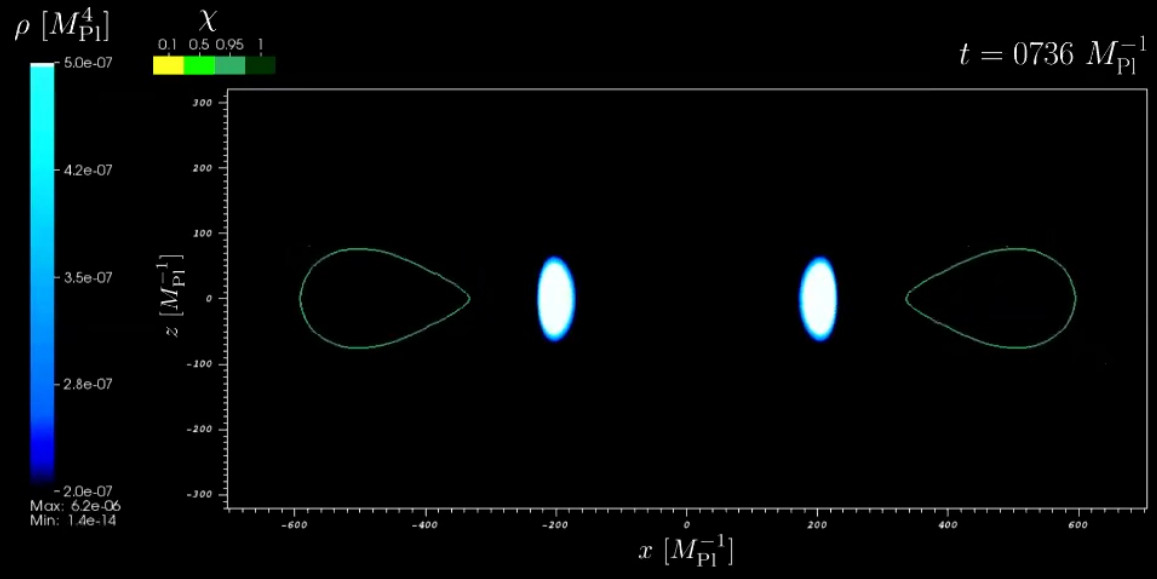
[Christodoulou '91, Thorne '92]

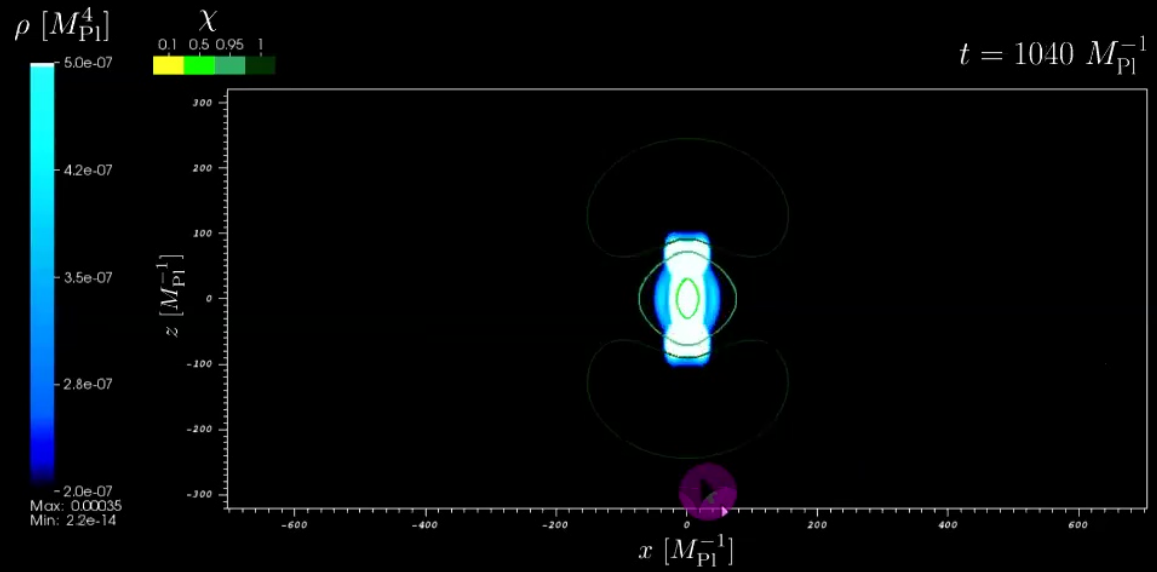
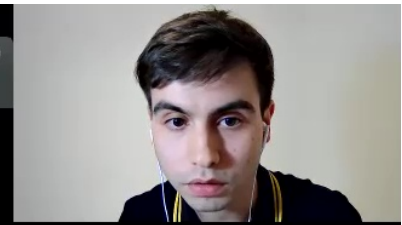


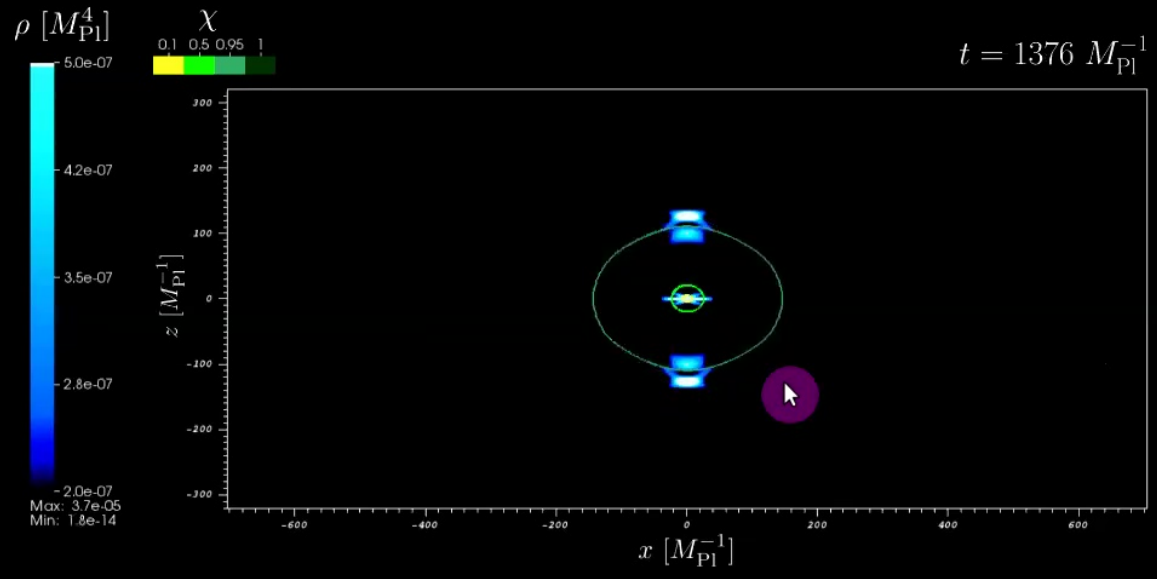
$$\Delta h \propto \left[ E_{\text{rad}} \left( \frac{v_i v_j}{1 - v \cos \theta} \right)^{\text{TT}} \right]_{\text{out}} - \left[ E_{\text{rad}} \left( \frac{v_i v_j}{1 - v \cos \theta} \right)^{\text{TT}} \right]_{\text{in}}$$

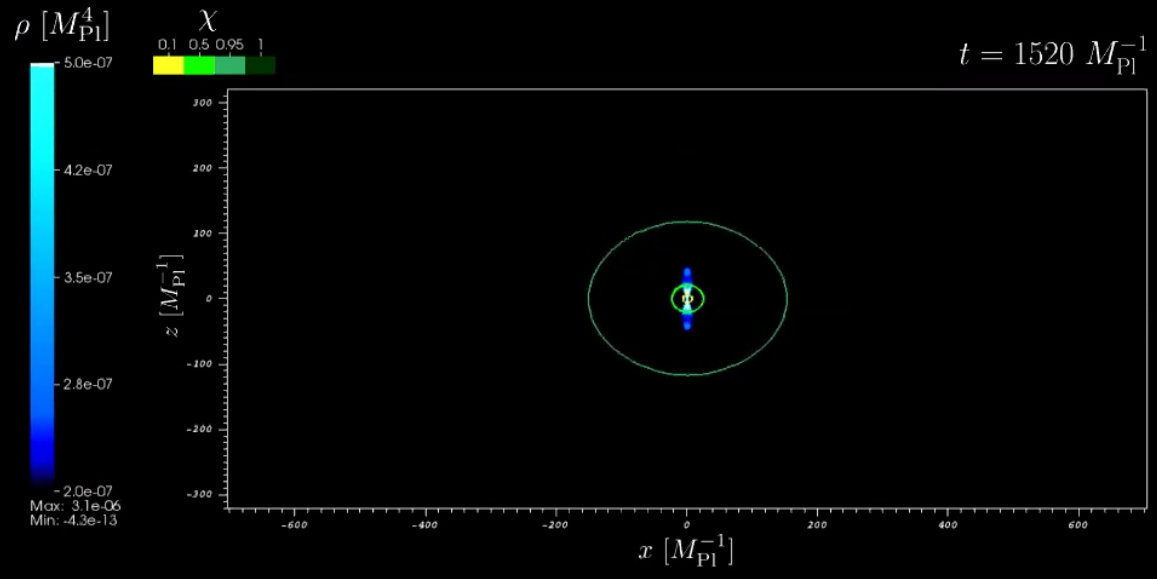
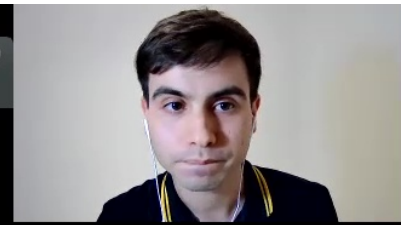






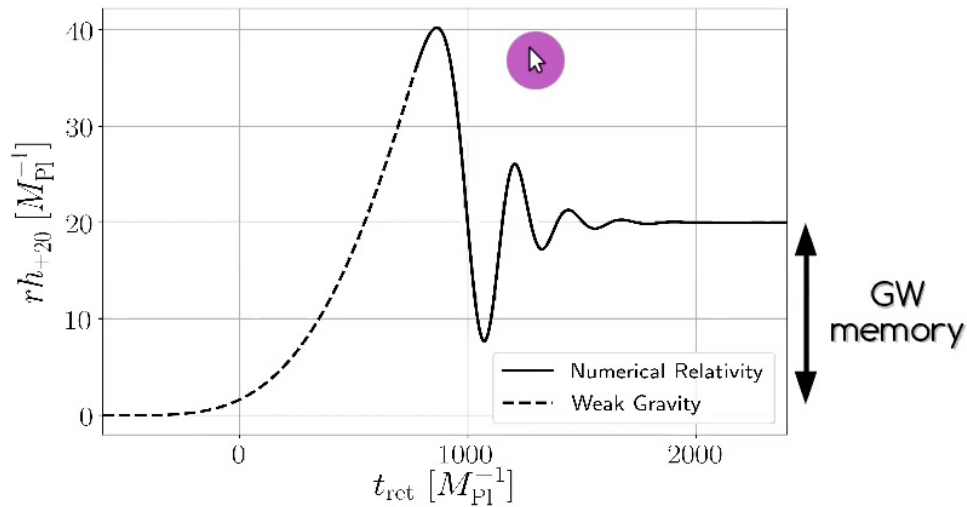








# Matching Infall + Merger + Ringdown



## Linear memory

[Zel'Dovich & Polnarev '74; Braginsky & Grishchuk '85; Braginsky & Thorne '87]

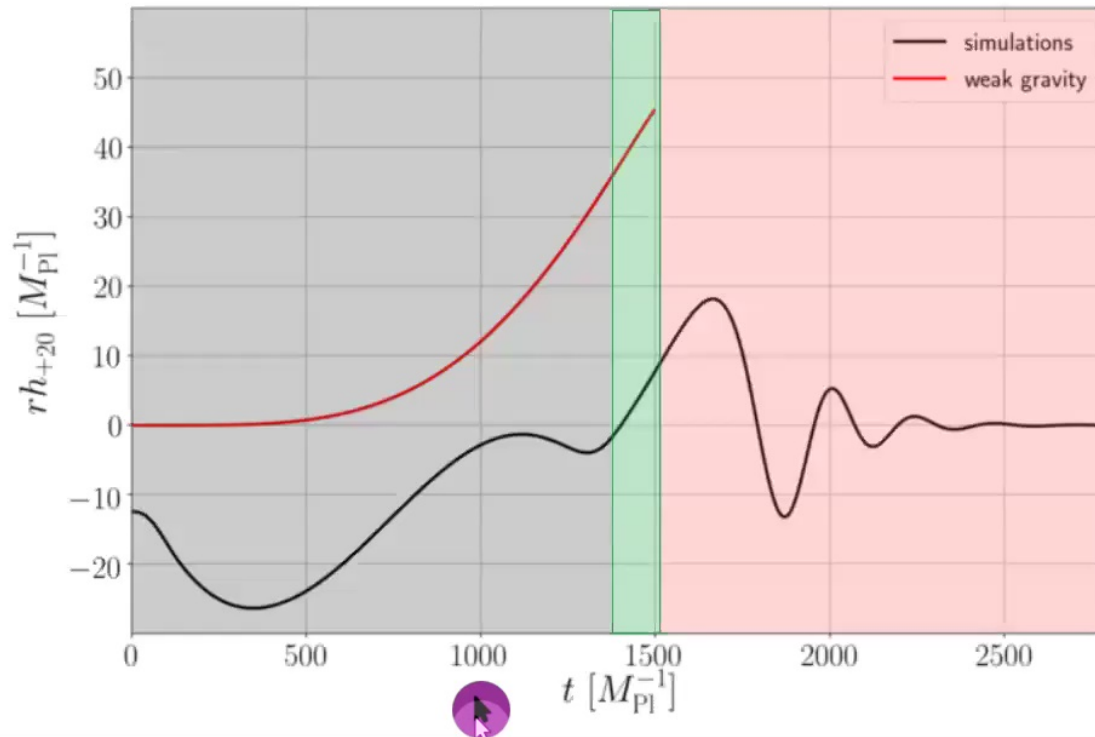
## Non-linear memory

[Christodoulou '91, Thorne '92]

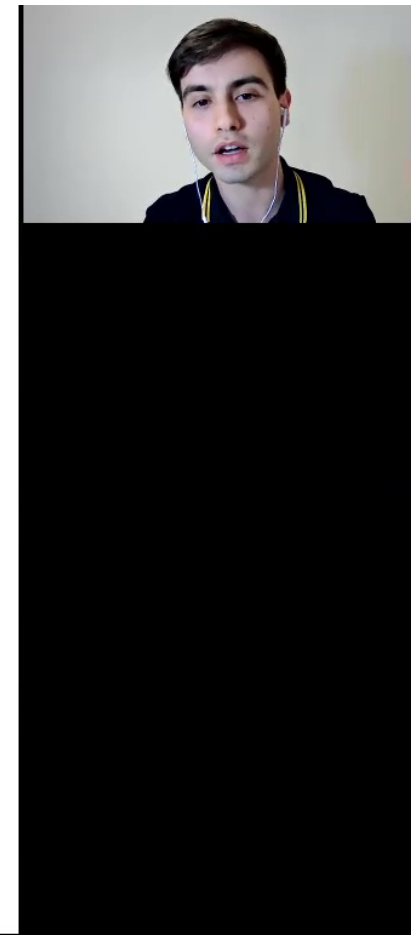
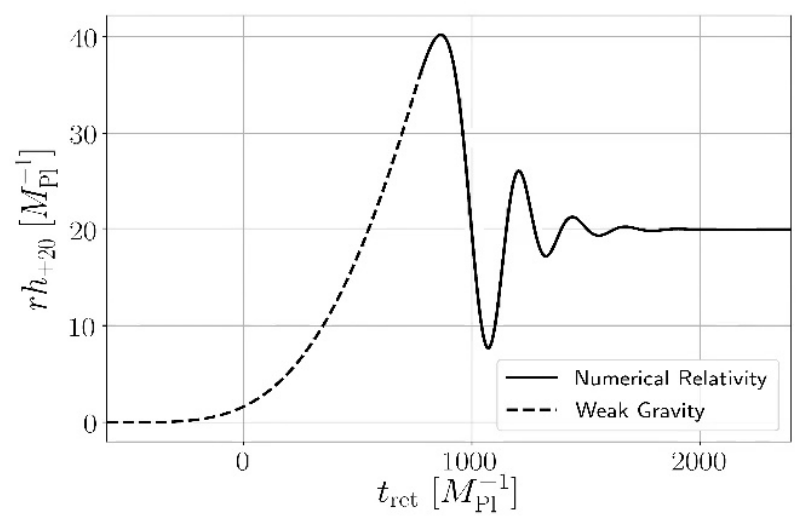


$$\Delta h \propto \left[ E_{\text{rad}} \left( \frac{v_i v_j}{1 - v \cos \theta} \right)^{\text{TT}} \right]_{\text{out}} - \left[ E_{\text{rad}} \left( \frac{v_i v_j}{1 - v \cos \theta} \right)^{\text{TT}} \right]_{\text{in}}$$

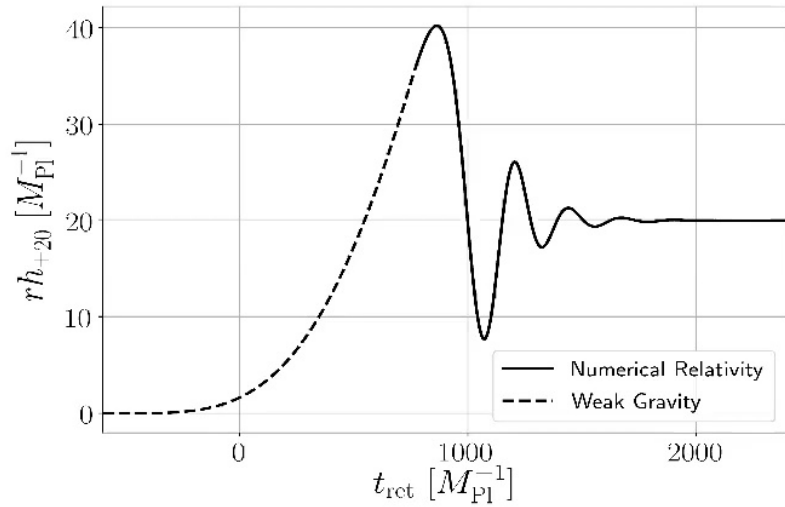
# Matching Infall + Merger + Ringdown



# Matching Infall + Merger + Ringdown



# Matching Infall + Merger + Ringdown



## Linear memory

[Zel'Dovich & Polnarev '74; Braginsky & Grishchuk '85; Braginsky & Thorne '87]

## Non-linear memory

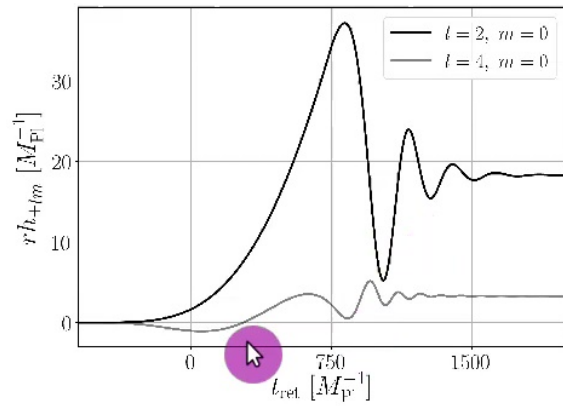
[Christodoulou '91, Thorne '92]

GW memory

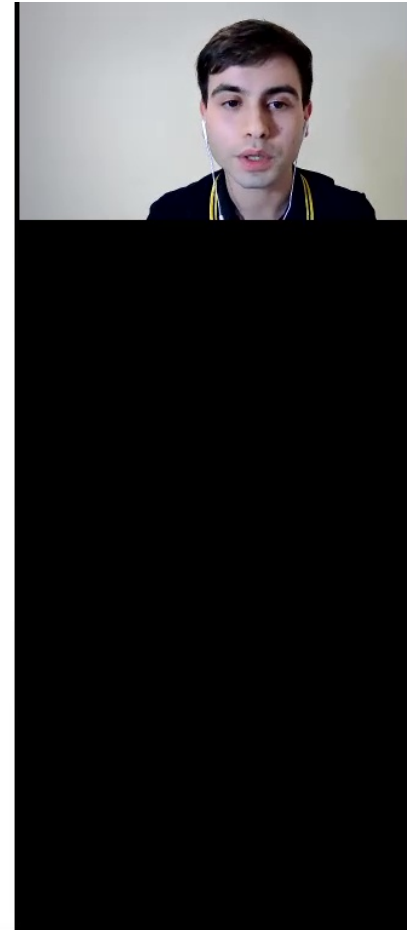
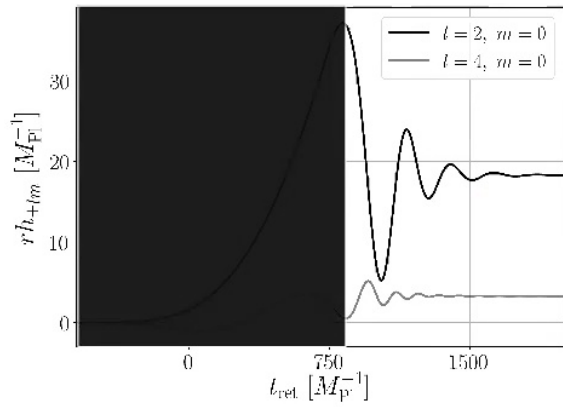


$$\Delta h \propto \left[ E_{\text{rad}} \left( \frac{v_i v_j}{1 - v \cos \theta} \right)^{\text{TT}} \right]_{\text{out}} - \left[ E_{\text{rad}} \left( \frac{v_i v_j}{1 - v \cos \theta} \right)^{\text{TT}} \right]_{\text{in}}$$

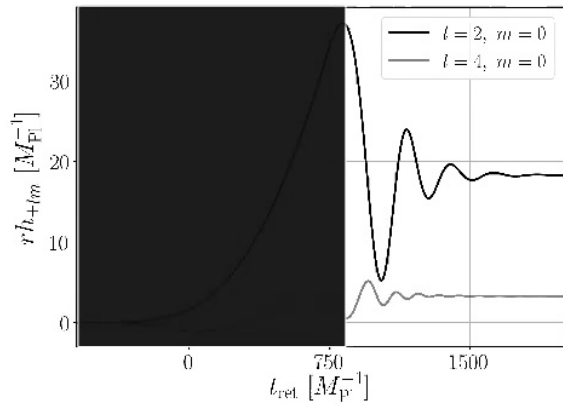
# Ongoing and future work



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# Ongoing and future work



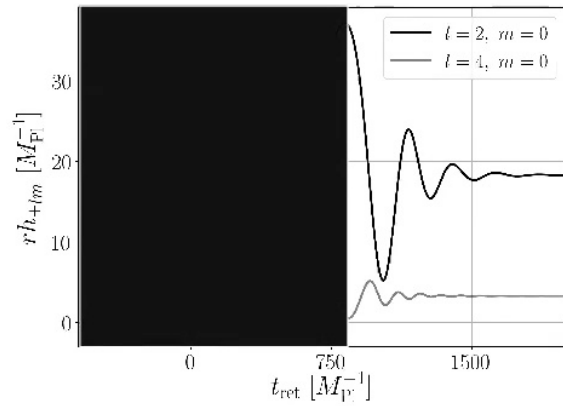
Very massive BBHs ~~≠~~ atypical GW progenitors?

Mode content

Williamson, JA, Helfer, Lim, Nissanke (21XX)



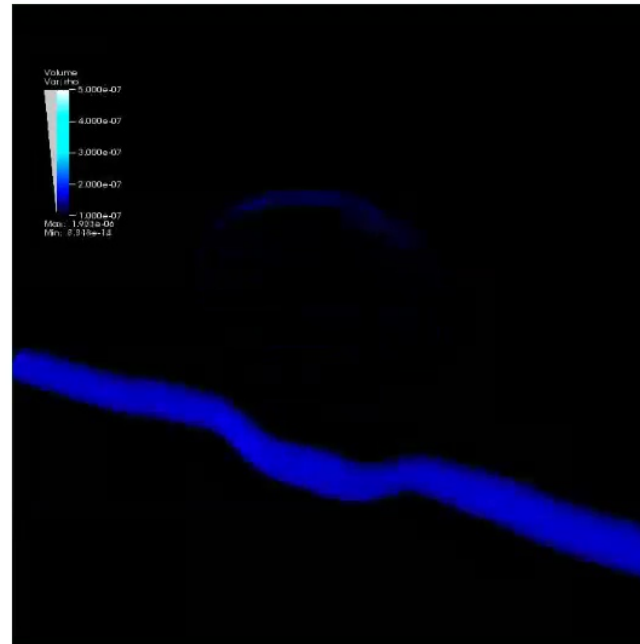
# Ongoing and future work



Very massive BBHs  $\neq$  atypical GW progenitors?

Mode content

Williamson, JA, Helfer, Lim, Nissanke (21XX)





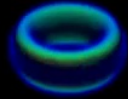
Circular cosmic  
string loops collapse



Circular cosmic string loops collapse



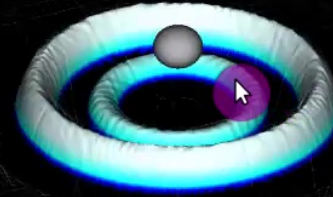
and accelerate to ultra-relativistic speeds.



They can form black holes



which produce a gravitational wave signal

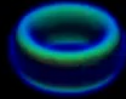




Circular cosmic string loops collapse



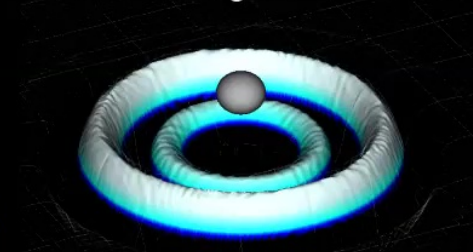
and accelerate to ultra-relativistic speeds.



They can form black holes



which produce a gravitational wave signal



Thank you

